This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

Google books

https://books.google.com

Princeton University Library
32101 067287506

SCOUTING

A PRACTICAL MANUAL FOR THE USE OF SCOUTS IN TRAINING AT HOME AND AT THE FRONT

BY LIEUT. L. C. R. D. J. CAMERON

LATE SCOUTS OFFICER 8TH (SERVICE) BATTALION
QUEEN'S OWN CAMERON HIGHLANDERS

1/- NET

9986
.234

LONDON
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.
1916

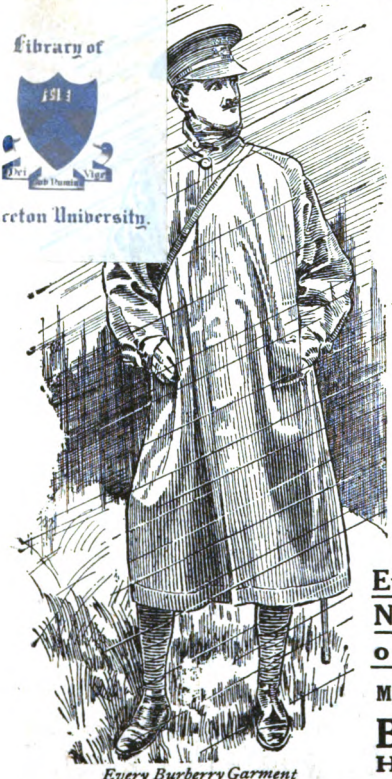
Digitized by Google

9986
.234

E BURBERRY

nsures comfort and security in every d of weather."—LAND & WATER

Library of
Princeton University.



Every Burberry Garment is labelled "Burberrys"

THE WORLD OVER

experienced soldiers—men whose lives are spent in making the best of existing weather conditions—all agree that only ONE Weather-proof Top-coat will stand the critical tests to which they put it, and that is

THE BURBERRY

THE SUCCESS of The Burberry has been phenomenal. Its inestimable value on Active Service has been attested by thousands of Officers who keenly appreciate its wet-resisting properties—warmth in cold weather — lightness — freedom — self-ventilation—smart, workmanlike appearance—its strength and durability.

Everything the Officer Needs in 2 to 4 Days or Ready for Use

MILITARY CATALOGUE POST FREE

BURBERRYS
Haymarket LONDON
8 & 10 Bd. Malesherbes PARIS

Google

GUARANTEED

WATERPROOFS

INFANTRY & CAVALRY

BY APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING

THE "GNIDROC" COAT

In approved KHAKI materials, may be had with detachable FLEECE LINING

CAMP AND HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT

TRENCH LEGGINGS AND WADERS,
SLEEPING BAGS, HAVERSACKS,
KITBAGS, VALISES,
AIR PILLOWS

GUARANTEED
WATERPROOF BOOTS
for all purposes.

LEGGINGS, RIDING APRONS

NOTE: *REGIMENTAL ORDERS can be promptly executed*

The "GNIDROC"

GEO. CORDING, LTD.

LONDON, W.

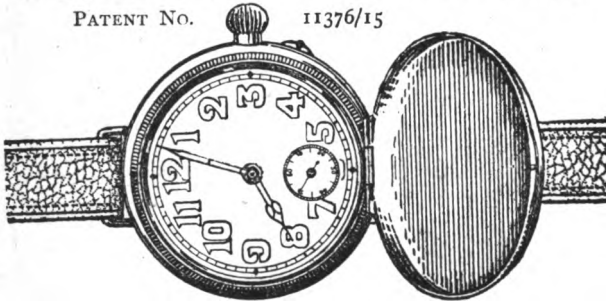
125, REGENT ST.

Digitized by Google

BY APPOINTMENT.

The "Military" Luminous Watch

PATENT NO. 11376/15



TWO important features in any wristlet watch meant for service use are ability to show time in the dark and power to resist damage or breakage. The Military Luminous Watch illustrated combines these qualities. Fully luminous at night, it is contained in a one-piece solid silver screw case that makes it dust and damp proof, and is fitted with a patent cover to protect the glass. Dust, damp, and breakage proof, and an accurate timekeeper, this watch is indispensable for Naval or Military Service.

£3.12.6 Without Cover **£3.3.0**

THE

GOLDSMITHS & SILVERSMITHS COMPANY, LTD.

Watchmakers to the Admiralty

ONLY ADDRESS

112, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

Digitized by Google

INFANTRY SCOUTING

Digitized by Google

IMPERIAL ARMY SERIES

EDITED BY CAPTAIN E. J. SOLANO

Profusely Illustrated, 1s. net each.

DRILL AND FIELD TRAINING—ATTACK, DEFENCE, OUTPOSTS, SCOUTING, BAYONET FIGHTING, FIELD SKETCHING, NIGHT OPERATIONS.

SIGNALLING—MORSE, SEMAPHORE, STATION WORK, DESPATCH RIDING, TELEPHONE CABLES, MAP READING.

MUSKETRY—ELEMENTARY TRAINING, VISUAL TRAINING, JUDGING DISTANCE, FIRE DIRECTION, RANGE AND FIELD PRACTICES.

MACHINE-GUN TRAINING—ORGANIZATION, SECTION DRILL, TACTICAL HANDLING, FIRE CONTROL, ANNUAL COURSE.

FIELD ENTRENCHMENTS—HASTY FIRE COVER, FIRE TRENCHES, COMMUNICATIONS, CONCEALMENT, OBSTRUCTION, SHELTERS.

CAMPS: BILLETS: COOKING: CEREMONIAL—SANITATION, ORGANIZATION, ROUTINE, GUARD DUTIES, INSPECTION, BIVOUACS.

PHYSICAL TRAINING—2 VOLS. I. JUNIOR COURSE; II. SENIOR COURSE. SWEDISH EXERCISES, SWIMMING.

OTHER MILITARY BOOKS

FIELD GUNNERY—A PRACTICAL MANUAL PREPARED WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE HEAVIES. BY DONALD A. MACALISTER, LIEUT. R.G.A. 1/6 NET.

ON TAKING BEARINGS—WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW TO USE THEM. BY H. P. WALSH, CAPT., 3RD LOYAL NORTH LANCASHIRE REGT. 1/- NET.

INFANTRY SCOUTING—A PRACTICAL MANUAL FOR THE USE OF SCOUTS IN TRAINING. BY L. C. R. D. J. CAMERON, LIEUT., LATE SCOUTS' OFFICER, 8TH (SERVICE) BATTALION, CAMERON HIGHLANDERS. 1/- NET.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

INFANTRY SCOUTING

A PRACTICAL MANUAL FOR THE USE OF SCOUTS IN TRAINING AT HOME AND AT THE FRONT

BY

LIEUT. L. C. R. D. J. CAMERON,

Late Scouts Officer 8th (Service) Battalion
Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders

UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY
PRINCETON, N.J.

LONDON
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.
1916

Digitized by Google

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Digitized by Google

DEDICATED

(BY SPECIAL PERMISSION)

TO

FIELD-MARSHAL

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

VISCOUNT FRENCH OF YPRES

G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G.

FIELD-MARSHAL COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF HOME FORCES

DIRECTOR OF MILITARY TRAINING

D 526 .2 .54

DEC 12 1916 378097

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

PREFACE

IT is matter of common knowledge that despite the oft-repeated remonstrances of some few officers who, like General Sir R. S. S. Baden-Powell, had appreciated its importance, the training of Infantry Scouts for War Service had, prior to the outbreak of the present war, been almost altogether neglected in the British Army. Only in the Mounted Arm had any sufficient training in Scouting been carried out, and that chiefly on lines dictated by experience acquired during the South African Campaign 1899–1902.

The effects of this neglect of one of the most important branches of infantry training were not slow in making themselves felt upon the outbreak of the present Continental war; and were emphasised directly the campaign entered upon the phase of entrenched fighting and the immediate impossibility of employing Cavalry Scouts became manifest.

The few military books on Scouting were either out-of-date, unsuited to European warfare, or designed for use during long-extended periods of training; and despite the many useful hints and principles laid down in their pages, have proved of little use in

Digitized by Google

enabling the Scouts Officers of the New Armies, with all their enthusiasm and devotion to duty, to carry out a rapid and systematic course of training calculated to give the best results in the least possible time.

When men drawn straight from Civil Life have to be completely fitted to take their place in the firing line within periods varying from twelve to as little as three months, it is obvious that only a short portion of this time can be devoted to training any proportion of them in the duties of Infantry Scouts. But if the men selected have a natural aptitude for the work and are (like Signallers and Machine-gunners) kept entirely to that work once they are " off the square " and have fired their Musketry Course, there is no reason why they should not be turned into tolerably efficient scouts within a period of six weeks.

This little book, therefore, is designed with this aim in view ; and is the result of personal experience in Training the Infantry Scouts of different units in the New Armies of the Empire ; added to a spell at the Front which has made it possible to appreciate the work required of trained Battalion Scouts in the present phase of trench warfare.

As the General Staff should form the " Brain of the Army," so the Scouts should be the " Eyes of the Army," without which even the Brain is unable to fulfil its functions satisfactorily. No Army contains so much promising material for the rapid manufacture of efficient Infantry Scouts as the New Armies of the

Digitized by Google

Empire. In other words the Eyes are there: it only remains to train them; since, as with physical eyes, the secret of their usefulness lies in their being taught what and how to observe.

Commanders at the Front are fully alive to the paramount importance of the trained Scout in and in front of the fire-trenches. Commanders of Training Battalions in Great Britain and beyond the seas, as well as of the Base Training Camps in France, will, it is hoped, now be able, by the aid of this Manual, to select Scouts for Training under Officers specially qualified, and to ensure that they shall all be educated in their work on a uniform system; which has become the more necessary now that Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the New Armies are liable to be transferred indifferently from their own to other units as the exigencies of the war may demand

L. C. R. D. J. CAMERON.

15th I.B.D.
BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE,
FRANCE.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

CONTENTS

PAGE

PREFACE vii

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION: ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SCOUTING IN THE PRESENT WAR AND OF A RAPID AND COMPREHENSIVE COURSE OF TRAINING 1

CHAPTER II

THE SELECTION AND ORGANISATION OF BATTALION SCOUTS 6

CHAPTER III

SCOUTS' DRESS AND EQUIPMENT . . . 13

CHAPTER IV

A SCHEME OF RAPID TRAINING, WITH SYLLABUS 20

CHAPTER V

PRELIMINARY TRAINING:

(*a*) INDOOR WORK:

1. The Qualifications of a Scout . 25

Digitized by Google

(*a*) INDOOR WORK (*continued*):

PAGE

2. What to Observe . . . 29
3. Map-reading 34
4. Copying and Enlarging Maps . 38
5. Writing Reports . . . 44

(*b*) OUTDOOR WORK:

1. Judging Distance . . . 53
2. Semaphore Signalling . . 55
3. Identifying a Country . . 57
4. Road and River Reconnaissance 58
5. Reconnaissance of Villages, Farms, Woods, etc. 59
6. Tracking 61
7. Observation and Deduction from actions of Birds and Beasts . 66
8. Simple Field-sketching and Map-making 69

CHAPTER VI

ADVANCED TRAINING:

(*c*) DAY WORK:

1. Cross-country Work . . . 74
2. Observing and Reporting from Cover 76

Digitized by Google

(*c*) DAY WORK (*continued*):

PAGE

3. How to take Cover and observe without being seen . . . 78
4. Functions of Scouts in Trench Warfare 79
5. Field Practices and Memory Tests 81
6. Patrols 82

(*d*) NIGHT WORK:

1. Finding the Way at Night . 83
2. Marching on a Bearing . . 87
3. Finding the Way in Woods and Close Country 90
4. Listening Posts and Identification of Sounds at Night . . . 91
5. Bivouacing and Cooking . . 93

CHAPTER VII

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY BADGES . 98

SUGGESTED EXAMINATION TESTS . . . 99

INDEX 101

Digitized by Google

ILLUSTRATIONS

RECONNAISSANCE MAP WITH DETAILS FILLED IN BY EYE . . . . *Frontispiece*

PAGE

SERVICE PRISMATIC COMPASS MARK VI . . 14

REDUCED FACSIMILE OF SERVICE PROTRACTOR . 16

POINTS OF THE COMPASS 36

TRUE NORTH AND MAGNETIC NORTH . . 36

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS . . . . *facing* 36

METHOD OF ENLARGING A MAP BY SQUARES . 39

METHOD OF ENLARGING MAP OF A ROAD OR RIVER 41

PLAN OF SECTION OF TRENCHES . . . 45

SEMAPHORE SIGNALS 56

ARMY FLAGS AND LAMPS . . . *facing* 56

PANORAMA SKETCH . . . . . „ 70

NORTH STAR AND PLOUGH 85

THE SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION ORION . . 86

METHOD OF MARCHING ON A BEARING . . 89

OVEN EXCAVATED IN SLOPING BANK . . 95

ARRANGEMENT OF LOGS FOR OUTDOOR FIRE . 96

Digitized by Google

INFANTRY SCOUTING

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

BEARING in mind the maxim that the Scouts are the Eyes of any force to which they may be attached, it will be seen that whatever form of warfare the course of operations may take, the Scouts are equally indispensable to the Higher Command. It does not matter whether the enemy is several miles' distant or whether a space of less than 100 yards divides the opposing fire trenches, the duties of the Trained Scout remain precisely the same, though they will have to be carried out by different methods.

In the first instance the Scout will have to range far and wide in search of that information which it is necessary to pass back through the Scouts Officer to the Higher Command. Much of this work can now be done by observers from aircraft of different types, or by men mounted on horses or cycles; but there are many occasions upon which the Scout working afoot is the only possible medium of obtaining the information required. In the second instance

Digitized by Google

only the Infantry Scout can be of any use. His duties where opposing forces are closely in touch, whether in the open or in an entrenched position, are extremely onerous and frequently dangerous.

It is to the Scouts that are entrusted in the trenches the duties of look-out men at the loopholes. They are told off as snipers, and are frequently employed to act as guides in conducting officers and bodies of troops to and from the trenches and from one portion of the trenches to another. When troops are in billets behind the firing line it is the Scouts who have to meet and conduct reinforcements and men returning from leave from the railhead to their quarters, and for observation posts, listening posts, reconnoitring in front of and to the flanks of positions, only reliable, well-trained Infantry Scouts can be employed; and the Scouts Officer is marked out for various important and risky enterprises, such as examining the enemy's trenches at night and acting very often as observing officer for the Artillery.

In view of the wastage unavoidable in modern warfare it will be seen that it is almost impossible to train too many officers, N.C.O.s and men in the duties of Scouting. In fact, with the exception of those specialists, the machine-gunners, signallers, bombers, miners, pioneers, and so-forth, it is not too much to say that all officers under Field Rank and all N.C.O.s and men in any Battalion should be put through a course of Scouting.

Digitized by Google

Not only is the soldier who has gone through the Scouts Course a better man all round, but he is of infinitely greater value to his Commanding Officer than if he were to remain merely a soldier who could march, shoot and use the bayonet or the trench-knife. In the present phase of the war, whether in France, Flanders or farther afield, it is of such importance to replace casualties rapidly and efficiently that a system of training men to act as Scouts within a short period of time has become indispensable, not only to the Commanding Officers of the Training Battalions both at home and abroad, but also to the Commanders of Infantry Units actually at the Front.

This Manual has been carefully thought-out to meet this paramount requirement of the moment. While it covers all or most of the ground included in previous Books on Scouting it pretends especially to provide for contingencies that may yet arise in a war of which it is impossible to foresee the termination, or to forecast the developments that future months of campaigning may witness.

Provided the Officer selected in the first instance to train the Battalion Scouts is the right man for the job, and that he in his turn obtains the right men to train, it should be a comparatively simple matter so to lay the foundations of a system of training Scouts in any Unit that no matter what the casualties in that particular Unit may chance to be, there will still remain a deposit of knowledge that shall suffice

Digitized by Google

for the production of Trained Scouts in that Unit whenever they are required.

If the Syllabus of Training laid down in this Manual be carefully followed and the Scouts so trained examined at the conclusion of their Course on the lines suggested in the section on " Examination for Proficiency Badges " at the end of the book, it should be easy for any Commanding Officer (whether of a Battalion at the Front or of a Training Battalion) to appreciate at once how many competent Scouts he possesses or is able to supply to Units in the Field.

It is however occasionally the case that the " dug-out " officers of the old Army, whom the exigencies of the present war have compelled to accept Commands in the New Armies, are not sufficiently alive to the importance of training the men entrusted to their tuition in duties which in their day formed no part of the training of a soldier, or at the most were considered more or less immaterial.

The training of Scouts " comprises in itself a study of no inconsiderable magnitude," as Mr. Pickwick said of politics; but it presents many attractive features which take the Scout in training away from the somewhat irksome routine work of the Company or Battalion, and give him an added interest in his military duties which it is especially important to cultivate in the patriotic ex-civilian intent upon doing the best for his country in her hour of need. It should not therefore require any emphasis on my

Digitized by Google

part to make these Commanding Officers realise the importance of having the men for whose training they are responsible efficiently educated in the duties of Infantry Scouts.

In this connection the question of Badges and Proficiency Pay is important. There seems, at any rate in some of the Training Battalions, a certain amount of doubt as to what—with due respect to the red tape which is still to be found in most Orderly Rooms—may or may not be done in this connection. At the Front however little regard is paid to this sort of thing, and Commanding Officers give their Battalion Scouts the recognised Fleur-de-Lys Sleeve Badge, and those N.C.O.s and men who have passed the test are permitted to wear the Badge of a Fleur-de-Lys with a Cross at the foot, which formerly pertained only to the Cavalry. It is obvious that a similar system might advantageously be adopted in the Training Battalions, as nothing is so well calculated to act as an incentive to good and conscientious Scouting work as the possession of a distinctive Badge, with an opportunity for acquiring a further distinction and of receiving Proficiency Pay when the Tests have been successfully passed.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER II

THE SELECTION AND ORGANISATION OF BATTALION SCOUTS

It is safe to say that it would be impossible to train too many N.C.O.s and privates of any battalion as Scouts. The limit set to the number of Scouts in training at any one time can only be defined by the number which it is possible for a Scouts Officer to teach and control. Provided the Scouts Officer has a permanent Scout Sergeant or an efficient subaltern learning under him, there is no reason why he should not be able to train thirty-two N.C.O.s and men at a time. Normally one N.C.O. and seven men per company should be selected by the Commanding Officer and Sergeant-Major to be trained as Battalion Scouts. If however the Scouts Officer has no assistant in the shape of a subaltern or permanent Scout Sergeant it will be impossible for him to train at one time more than four men per company with the addition of a N.C.O. of the rank of at least a full corporal.

The Officer selected for the training of Scouts in any battalion should be specially qualified for his job. He should not only be an enthusiast on the subject, but he should if possible have been an open-air man, an expert at field-sports, a map-reader, a map-drawer,

Digitized by Google

a man with an eye for a country, good at field-sketching, a bit of a naturalist, able to ride a horse or a cycle, to drive a motor-car, to swim, to speak several languages, to cook, to be what is usually called in civil life "a good all-round sportsman," which connotes, as a rule, a man of more than average intelligence.

Provided the Colonel of his Service Battalion or Training Battalion is alive to the necessity of instructing a proportion of the men under his command in the duties of Scouting, and has at his disposal some Officer with experience of, or a natural aptitude for, Scouting and the training of men as Infantry Scouts, there should be no difficulty in the carrying out within six weeks of the system of training laid down in this Manual.

Within this time it should be possible for any officer who has studied this book and the various special manuals on cognate subjects, such as military-sketching and signalling, to educate the N.C.O.s and men entrusted to his charge sufficiently for them to pass the tests suggested at the end of the book and so to qualify for the Badge and Proficiency Pay to which the Trained Scout is or should be entitled.

When the N.C.O.s and men intended to be trained as Scouts are handed over to the Scouts Officer, they should be placed by the Commanding Officer of the Battalion entirely at his disposal for purposes of training. They should be excused all guards and fatigues, and if possible they should be separated from

Digitized by Google

their companies and messed and quartered together as a distinct unit. In fact they should belong to their companies during the period of training only for the purposes of pay. The Commanders of the companies from which they are drawn should have no control over them so long as they are undergoing their course of training. If the O.C. Scouts is, as he should be, a Captain or a Senior Subaltern of some years' service, it would be wise for the C.O. to allow him to hold his own Orderly Room and "tell off" his men like the commander of any other Unit. In the New Armies friction will always arise between the Company Commanders and the officers charged with special training duties, whether in scouting, signalling or machine gunnery, unless disciplinary power is given to the latter in the same way as it is to the former.

The duty of the Scouts Officer is to hand over to the Company Commander at the end of the six weeks' training a number of N.C.O.s and men fully qualified as Scouts, who will then be at the disposal of the Company Commander for use as Company Scouts whenever they are not required by the Commanding Officer to act collectively under the Battalion Scouts Officer as Battalion Scouts.

The Officer training the Battalion Scouts will very soon discover which of the men transferred to him for training is incapable of being turned into an efficient Scout. If a man after a few days' preliminary in-

Digitized by Google

struction proves incapable of learning how to read a map, for instance, or how to write a report correctly, or shows that he has no real interest in Scouting, it is the plain duty of the Scouts Officer to send him back to his Company Commander, and to send the Company Commander a report stating that such a man is " returned to duty as being unlikely to make an efficient Scout."

In the average battalion of the New Armies there is a very wide field for the selection of suitable men to be trained as Scouts. A fair proportion of the younger recruits have already as " Boy-Scouts " been initiated into some of the mysteries of the craft. When the Sergeant-Major calls for men to be trained as Battalion Scouts, it is these who will come forward in the first instance. After these will come men who have been bred in the country and who have been employed as farm-labourers, game-keepers, rural postmen, fishing ghillies, woodmen, and in kindred occupations. All these classes of men are already used to the country, to an open-air life and above everything to finding their way in the dark; which is the one drawback to the prompt training of a town-bred man in the duties of Scouting.

On the other hand a great many men born and bred in towns who have been recruited to the ranks of the New Armies have learnt from their peregrinations through the streets and slums of the city to use both their eyes and their memory: the two invaluable

Digitized by Google

qualifications for an Infantry Scout. If the Scouts Officer finds it possible in the course of training to rid these townsmen of their inherited fear of the dark and their dislike to be alone in the woods and open country; and if, in addition, they possess a keen enthusiasm for their work, he will very often find that these townsmen (whom, perhaps, he may despise at the beginning) will turn into the best Scouts he has.

Directly the men for training are handed over to him the Scouts Officer will do well to examine each of them individually as to any qualifications they may have that will be of special use to them as Scouts. To this end he must have a proper Roll-Book in which to enter the regimental number, rank, Christian and surname, age, company, religion, whether married or single, home address, occupation in civil life, particulars as to eyesight and hearing, musketry qualification, signalling, whether the man can ride or drive, and (if so) whether a horse, cycle or motor-car, whether he can swim, and what special qualifications he may possess that would make him exceptionally useful in Scouting. For instance, a man may be a cross-country runner, a motor mechanic, a long-distance swimmer, a tailor, a cook, or may be able to speak some foreign language; any of which qualifications will serve to render him exceptionally desirable as a Scout, provided he can be trained. Appended is a specimen page of such a Roll-Book which the Scouts Officer

Digitized by Google

SCOUTS ROLL-BOOK.

.....BATTALION .....REGIMENT

No.	*Rank.*	*Name.*	*Age.*	*Company.*	*M. or S.*	*Religion.*	*Home Address.*	*Civil Employment.*	*Sight.*	*Hearing.*	*Shooting.*	*Riding.*	*Swimming.*	*Special Qualifications.*	*Progress.*
00001	L/C	Jno. Grant	27	A	Married	Pres.	Park Drive, Govan	Colliery Clerk	Good	Good	I. Cl. shot	Cyclist	¼ mile	Knows French. 1st Aid Cert.	
00002	Pte.	Geo. Robertson	22	B	Single	C.E.	Stirling Road, Drymen	Marine Engr.	Good	Good	II. Cl. shot	Motor Cyclist	Fair	Understds. pumps. Repairs motor-engines	
00003	Pte.	Robt. McGregor	25	C	Single	R.C.	Mauchline, Ayrshire	Blacksmith and Farmer	Good	Good	III. Cl. shot	Rides and drives	Cannot swim	Farrier. Can milk a cow	

Digitized by Google

may keep in Army Book 153 or in any other convenient notebook.

As a rule it will be found that the best age for Scouts in the present war is between twenty-five and thirty-five years: indeed it may be doubted whether any soldiers below or above these ages are not either too old or too young to undergo the hardships and nervous strain of modern campaigning, though, of course, they can hardly be too young to commence their training.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER III

SCOUTS' DRESS AND EQUIPMENT

OVER and above the ordinary equipment of the soldier there are certain articles indispensable to the Infantry Scout. These things should be provided when possible out of the funds at the disposal of those responsible for the administration of the Battalion. As a matter of practice it is to be feared that they are usually provided, in more or less profusion, by the unfortunate Scouts Officer.

Every Scout must have a pencil and notebook, preferably Army Book 153 or 153B. The N.C.O.s will have field-glasses and whistles, and each of the men should have an active-service knife on a lanyard. In addition every Scout should have a watch and at any rate some sort of magnetic compass. The Scouts Officer will of course provide himself with the very best field-glasses, a Prismatic Compass Mark VI or VII, a wrist-watch with luminous dial or radium-pointed hands and figures, a service protractor, and a good knife. If he is serving in a Highland Battalion his *sgian-dubh* will suffice, or he may supplement it by one of Underwood's "Corbet Hunting Knives." He may also provide himself with the Field Sketching Companion sold by Messrs. Gale & Polden, which

Digitized by Google

SERVICE PRISMATIC COMPASS MARK VI.

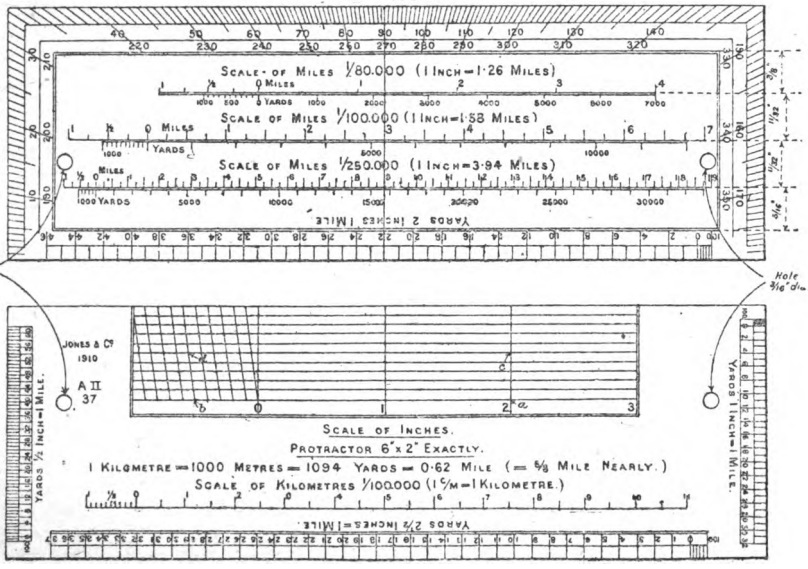
Digitized by Google

besides being furnished with all necessary implements for field-sketching, contains a boxwood service protractor. As his sergeant and N.C.O.s will be provided with whistles, it will be a great advantage if he can use some other means of signalling in order to communicate his directions to the Scouts in training, when they are scattered over a considerable extent of country, perhaps a mile or so distant from him. For this purpose nothing is better than an ordinary hunting-horn, which in these swordless days may be carried reversed in the frog attached to the Sam Browne belt. Such a horn may be purchased from Swaine & Adeney, 185, Piccadilly, who also sell a small book with instructions *How to Blow the Hunting-horn*. The most serviceable of the many horns sold by this firm is that known as a "banded horn," which costs a guinea; or, for those who find it impossible to sound a hunting-horn, this firm provides a copper "reed horn" at an even lower price.

An electric torch is also a necessity for a Scouts Officer, the best being one that can be equally well carried in the hand, attached to the belt, or placed upon the ground or a table. A pair of insulated wire-nippers are also indispensable.

For work extending over several nights and days away from the headquarters of the Battalion, when the Scouts should be taught to cook their own food, the Officer will require a canteen, of which many light and easily-portable types made in aluminium are

Digitized by Google


BEVELLED SIDE
FLAT SIDE
Hole 3/16 dia
Hole 3/16" dia
SCALE OF MILES 1/80.000 (1 INCH=1·26 MILES)
SCALE OF MILES 1/100.000 (1 INCH=1·58 MILES)
SCALE OF MILES 1/250.000 (1 INCH=3·94 MILES)
YARDS 2 INCHES 1 MILE
JONES & Cº 1910
A II 37
SCALE OF INCHES.
PROTRACTOR 6"x 2" EXACTLY.
1 KILOMETRE = 1000 METRES = 1094 YARDS = 0·62 MILE (= 5/8 MILE NEARLY.)
SCALE OF KILOMETRES 1/100.000 (1 5/8 = 1 KILOMETRE.)
YARDS 2½ INCHES = 1 MILE.
YARDS ½ INCH = 1 MILE.

REDUCED FACSIMILE OF SERVICE PROTRACTOR.

Digitized by Google

obtainable from the usual military outfitters. Instructions under this head will be found in another section of this Manual

When the Scouts Officer is acting as an observer or concealing himself in order to train his men to find him, he may need a cap-cover or one of the specially-manufactured sets of Scout masks and gloves. It will be well if he provides, whether from the Battalion funds or not, a dozen small flags of some distinctive colours easily to be identified, for use to indicate positions, skeleton troops, or his own headquarters when Scouting, as well as for signalling purposes. These flags, as well as all other common property of the Battalion Scouts, should be placed in charge of a selected N.C.O., who should be made responsible for their safe custody.

Maps of the country in which the training is carried on will probably be issued in sufficient quantities to the Scouts from the Orderly Room. The 1" Ordnance Map of the British Isles is of course much the best map from which to educate the Scouts; but they should also be practised in reading and learning from the ½" Map. Every Scout should be provided with a map, on some scale, of the country in which he is expected to work. This will probably be done at the public expense.

So far as dress goes, the Scout will, of course, wear the uniform of the Battalion to which he belongs with some few necessary modifications. For instance, he

Digitized by Google

must travel light, and therefore skeleton equipment may be worn instead of the pack, and a waterproof sheet rolled may be carried and worn in place of a great coat. Ordinary ankle-boots and puttees will be worn, although they are not best adapted for the performance of all his duties. A Scout should be prepared at any time to march, run, swim, ride a horse, or a bicycle, especially the latter, and has, of course, no opportunity to adjust his costume to rapidly varying circumstances. Perhaps the uniform worn by the cyclist detachments of some Corps, namely, breeches, khaki stockings, and shoes, forms the best all-round leg-wear for Scouting purposes. The disadvantages of ordinary trousers and puttees worn with ankle-boots have been amply shown at the Front, where most English and Irish Regiments have cut off the lower portions of their trousers and turned them up above the knee after the fashion of football shorts. Although the ankle-boot has been retained the puttee has been frequently discarded in favour of hose-tops, similar to those worn by Highland regiments, but so knitted in spirals as to partially resemble puttees. In Highland regiments Scouts will, of course, retain the kilt, and nothing in the way of leg wear is so useful or historically appropriate to the Highland dress as plain khaki hose and ordinary brogues without spats. These may also be worn with tartan or khaki riding-breeches by the Scouts Officer—especially if he be riding a horse, cycle, or

Digitized by Google

a motor bicycle—when controlling his Scouts in Training over a large tract of country.

At the Front attention to details of dress by practical soldiers, and all the red-tape regulations on the subject so often insisted upon in Training Battalions at home by Commanding Officers and Adjutants without war service, cannot always be strictly observed. There, an officer or a man wears whatever he possesses or can get hold of that is most useful and convenient for the work he has to perform; although, of course, when in rest-billets or back at the Base he smartens himself up and tries to look as soldierly as possible.

For night work, where silence is essential, Scouts should wear nothing in the way of dress or equipment which creaks or rattles; and, although it is usually necessary for them to carry their rifles and bayonets (which they must take great care do not make any noise), belts, pouches, field-glasses, etc., may often be temporarily discarded. Indeed, in some cases, a Scout were better to go out on his mission armed only with a *sgian-dubh* or a trench-knife. It must be remembered that the Scout will not primarily be sent out to fight, but to obtain and bring back information. He should only fight in self-defence, and then as noiselessly as possible, so as to convey no alarm to the enemy or to his own comrades. Therefore, if possible, he should never fire a shot, but defend himself with bayonet or knife.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER IV

A SCHEME OF RAPID TRAINING, WITH SYLLABUS

It is important that the Scouts Officer, whether in learning his own duties, or in instructing the men placed under his charge, should start off with a clear idea of exactly what is expected of him and of them. This result may, I think, best be obtained by a tabulated Syllabus or Scheme of Instruction setting forth the order of the various items of work in which the Scouts are to be instructed in a clear and easily comprehensible manner.

Thus the subject is divided into two principal parts, (I) Preliminary Training and (II) Advanced Training.

These main divisions may be sub-divided into:

(*a*) Indoor Work.
(*b*) Outdoor Work.
(*c*) Day Work.
(*d*) Night Work.

In both divisions there will be work of each of these sub-divisions. For instance, during the preliminary training some lectures and lessons will be given indoors; while others, of course, must be carried out in the open. Again, especially during the winter

Digitized by Google

months, much of this preliminary training may be carried on indoors after dusk. The advanced work, however, will where possible be carried on chiefly out of doors; and the Night Work at this stage of the Training will consist in putting into practice all those things that have been learnt both indoors and outdoors, and in applying to the difficult job of obtaining information in the dark the lessons already taught during daylight.

In the following table the Scouts Officer is not necessarily to be tied down to the exact order of the programme here outlined. Consideration of the season of the year during which the period of the training is to be carried out will compel him to modify and rearrange it, so as to employ the time at his disposal to the best advantage, while not interfering more than is possible with the continuity of the Course. A spell of bad weather coming during the period allotted to Preliminary Work, when it would be inadvisable to expose the class unnecessarily to gales and heavy rains, must be utilised for lectures, lessons in map-reading, writing reports, and so forth; leaving the work better carried on in the open until more suitable weather-conditions prevail. Short examination-papers may be set, with a view to discovering how far the class has benefited from the instruction already received; or competitions may be arranged in copying and enlarging maps, signalling short messages and similar subjects. It is important to

Digitized by Google

keep the men constantly interested in their work, and to stimulate them to excel each other. For this and other purposes a blackboard will be found absolutely essential; and the men themselves should be encouraged to draw and identify conventional signs, the features of a country, plans of trenches, and rough maps.

It must be understood, therefore, that although the order in which the various items in the following programme of work are arranged is that normally best calculated to train Scouts rapidly and effectively, as being the natural order in which information should be acquired, it by no means follows that the Officer charged with the Training of Infantry Scouts should slavishly adhere to it.

In accordance with the principle underlying all modern military training a wide scope for individual initiative must be allowed to the Scouts Officer. Once he has been selected for his job he should not be interfered with by his Commanding Officer or by the Adjutant; but he may advisedly, in order to allow them to see that he is duly carrying out his work, render a Report to the latter either once or twice during the six weeks' Course, showing the number and nature of the lessons and practices already carried out, and commenting on the progress made by the N.C.O.s and men under his command.

In the following pages the lectures on various subjects which are outlined are not intended to be ex-

Digitized by Google

haustive. They are meant to sketch the necessary lines upon which instruction in each item should be given, and the Scouts Officer may amplify them from his own special knowledge of the subject with which they deal. For instance, such subjects as Map-reading and Field-sketching are dealt with exhaustively in various Official Manuals and other military handbooks, which it will be the duty of the Scouts Officer to study if he is to make himself an efficient instructor. So far as this Manual goes, only the absolutely necessary information on branches of military knowledge otherwise not dealt with, is provided; although on practical matters, and especially on the employment of Scouts in the field, the information has been made as detailed and complete as possible, since there is no other Manual in which it is contained.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING

(*Designed to cover six weeks' work*)

I. PRELIMINARY TRAINING

(*a*) INDOOR WORK

1. Lecture on the qualifications of a Scout. The Scout Officer's Roll-Book.
2. Lecture on the functions of Scouts in the present war.
3. Lesson on Map-reading, finding N. Point with watch and compass and by stars, conventional signs, etc., magnetic variation.
4. Lesson on writing reports.
5. Copying and enlarging maps.

Digitized by Google

(*b*) Outdoor Work

1. Judging distance.
2. Semaphore, with and without flags.
3. Identifying a country.
4. Road and River reconnaissance. Field Book.
5. Reconnaissance of Villages, Farms, Woods, etc.
6. Tracking.
7. Observation of and deduction from actions of birds and beasts.
8. Simple Field-sketching and Map-making.

II. ADVANCED TRAINING

(*c*) Day Work

1. Cross-country work.
2. Observation of and Report on a position from cover.
3. How to take cover and observe without being seen. Aircraft, etc.
4. Reconnaissance from trenches and observation posts.
5. Special functions of Scouts in trench warfare.
6. Observing Officer's Reports and Diary.
7. Field practices and memory tests.
8. Formation of patrols, etc.

(*d*) Night Work

1. Finding the way at night. Stars, etc.
2. Marching on a given bearing.
3. Finding the way in woods and close country.
4. Listening Patrols.
5. Observation of enemy's trenches.
6. Identification of sounds at night.
7. Bivouacing and cooking.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER V

PRELIMINARY TRAINING

(*a*) INDOOR WORK

1. *The Qualifications of a Scout*

IT is of course impossible to train a stupid or thoroughly unintelligent man in the duties of a Scout. It is, therefore, to men who have in civil life made their way in their own trades or callings that the Sergeant-Major of the Training or other Battalion should in the first place look for men to be turned into Infantry Scouts. Some amateur writers on Scout-craft have suggested that game-keepers, farm-labourers with a slight tendency to poaching, and men customarily employed in outdoor avocations are those most likely to turn into efficient Scouts. In my experience, both as a soldier and as a sportsman, these are the least promising classes from which to draw men to be trained as Scouts. The one advantage they may probably possess is, that unlike the town-bred man, they are accustomed to be in the woods and open country after dark; and are therefore not so liable to be alarmed by the sudden hoot of an owl or the whirr of a covey of partridges

Digitized by Google

into which they may have walked, as is the townsman on his first experience of Scouting at night-time.

The average agricultural labourer, too, although he may be able to estimate the acreage of an enclosure, or the number of tons of hay in a rick, and be a more or less expert rabbit-poacher with a knowledge of horses and some ability in the direction of milking a cow, is a not altogether satisfactory type of man from the point of view of being trainable as a competent Scout. Even if observant of the things he sees, his memory is too often untrained and therefore profoundly unreliable. The first and principal necessity in a Scout is that he should not only observe but remember. Unless the man who sees can also report intelligibly what he has seen, he might just so well be stone-blind for any good he is as a Scout. Therefore the Scout must be trained not only to observe but also to remember what he has observed; and to report, either verbally or in writing, the result of his observation with accuracy and precision. The whole aim of the Training of Infantry Scouts is comprised in the above maxim.

In the New Armies, so far, a larger proportion of men have been recruited from the towns than from the country districts. The better of these townsmen are in my experience more observant, with more retentive memories and infinitely quicker at learning how to write reports than is the average recruit who was born and has remained a countryman. Pro-

Digitized by Google

bably the best material out of which an efficient Scout can be made is the man who, born and bred in the country, has betaken himself at an early age to some big city and engaged therein successfully in some trade or occupation which has developed his mental powers, engrafted (as they probably are in his case) upon a good physique.

With such material to his hand it will not be difficult for the Scouts Officer to instil instruction on such special points as :—

Observation.
The distinguishing of objects of military importance from those which have no military significance.
The ability to express himself briefly and clearly.
The writing of reports.
Signalling.
Judging distance.
Estimating numbers correctly.
Finding his way by the Compass.
Finding the North Point by the stars and by the sun.
Map-reading. Copying and enlarging maps.
Making rough Field-sketches.
Training his eyesight.
Forming an accurate judgment of the significance of the actions of birds and beasts.
Tracking.

Digitized by Google

Making a fire, under any conditions of weather.
Cooking his own rations in his canteen, and
Generally using his wits under all circumstances, so that he is never likely to find himself at fault or to be caught napping by the enemy.

It follows that the ideal Scout should be in his degree a "quick-witted" person, full of resource and self-reliance, who can work single-handed and be counted upon to perform his duties without the constant supervision of his superior officers. At the same time it must not be forgotten, and he must not be allowed to forget, that he is just as strictly amenable to Army Discipline as if he were all the time drilling with his Section or route marching under the watchful eye of the Adjutant.

In order that this sense of discipline may be retained during the period of Training in Scout-craft, the Scouts Officer will hold his parades in the same way as the Company Commander: will be just as strict in inspecting arms and equipment; will march, or order his Subaltern or senior N.C.O. to march, the men to some *rendezvous* beyond the boundary of barracks, hutments, or camp, prior to the carrying out of the day's programme of work. He will see that his men march at attention when entering and leaving camp or when passing as a Unit through large villages and towns, that they pay all proper compliments to guards, sentries, General and Commanding

Digitized by Google

Officers, and armed parties; and that whatever regulations for march discipline are in force in his Command or Unit are strictly observed. Any breaches of such discipline he must check and punish himself, or in the more serious cases must send the defaulters to be dealt with by their Commanding Officer.

There is one small point on which, however, he may be allowed some latitude. As his Scouts will be employed for long hours, both by day and by night, upon duties during which it will be impossible for them to be permitted to smoke or to use any light whatever, the customary rule as to smoking on the march in going to and from their various *rendezvous* may be relaxed. Nor do I see why the rule which obtains in some commands prohibiting the smoking of cigarettes should not also be abrogated; as otherwise the non-pipe smoker is unduly penalised. At the front all such rules are necessarily abrogated; and the power of permitting or prohibiting smoking in any form is of great value to the O.C. Scouts in obtaining discipline and efficiency in his class.

2. *What to Observe*

When Scouts are taken into the open country for the first time and told to observe the landscape, they, of course, see a number of features scattered over the country-side which may or may not possess any

Digitized by Google

military significance. It is the business of the Officer in charge of their training to distinguish, and to teach them to distinguish, between those objects which possess a military significance and those which do not.

A very good plan, since it trains the men's memory as well as their eyes, is to draw them up on some rising ground with their backs to the landscape which it is intended that they should observe, turn them about, give them five minutes to look at the country in front of them, turn them about again and examine them as to what they have seen. By this means the Scouts Officer can discover how much each man has seen, whether he has seen the right things, and whether, in addition, he understands their significance from a military standpoint.

For instance, let it be supposed that a fair tract of open country stretches in front of the position he has taken up, and that a number of farms and small crofts are dotted about on a plain fringed by hills, through and over which runs a main road crossed at a little distance by a railway, with perhaps a loch or an arm of the sea for background. The men must be trained to distinguish between the things in such a landscape which would influence a General Commanding the Force to which they are acting as the "Eyes," from those objects to which he would attach no importance.

Scouts must be taught always to regard the country

Digitized by Google

immediately in front of them as a hostile country; the line at their feet and to their right and left forming, as it were, the frontier. Viewed from this standpoint such common objects as the cattle and sheep grazing in the fields, the stacks of corn and ricks of hay in the various steadings, the smoke coming from the chimneys of farms and crofts (which will indicate whether they are inhabited or not), the nature of the boundaries set to roads and enclosures, whether they are wire fences, stone dykes, hedgerows or palings, the burns, streams or ditches, any plantings or woods, the prevalence or otherwise of field-paths, occupation roads and lanes, the amount of cover that may be provided by the accidental occurrence of patches of heather or whins, and the incidence of bridges and culverts over and under roads and railways are all features of military importance.

On the other hand the fact that a baker's cart or a motor-car may be passing along the road, or that the signals on the railway are lowered or the reverse, that a flock of rooks or gulls is feeding in some park or enclosure, that certain vessels are passing on their various occasions across the arm of the sea, or that clothes are spread to dry on the ground or on the whins surrounding a croft may or may not possess military significance, according to the nature of the Report required by the Higher Command, or to the deductions which the Trained Scout may be able to make from these signs.

Digitized by Google

Let us suppose that a Scout has under observation a small farm lying at a distance of about a mile from the place where he is standing. In the five minutes during which he is examining the spot he notes that there are five cows with three followers grazing in a park, that there are two stacks of wheat and three ricks of hay behind the steading, that there are breadths of Swedes and mangolds on the right of the house and that on the left there is an enclosure of about five acres devoted to oats. He sees smoke rising from two chimneys, he notes that the washing is drying on the fence at the foot of the garden, that a cart is standing on the main road, and that a man with a basket is walking from the cart to the house.

His deduction from these facts would be that a well-to-do farmer and his family were residing peacefully on their croft. The fact that the cattle were grazing undisturbed, that the stacks and ricks had not been tampered with, that the washing was hanging on the fence, that smoke was rising from the chimneys, that the baker was delivering his bread, would show him that the ordinary avocations of the farm were being normally pursued; and that, therefore, it was unlikely that any hostile force occupied or had lately visited that part of the country.

Supposing, however, he had noted in the time at his disposal any abnormal incidents—such, for example, as the flying out of a cloud of pigeons from the dovecot, the barking of a dog, the staring or running-

Digitized by Google

together of the cattle, or any agitated movements of the inhabitants of the house, the presence of strangers —and, from his point of view, probably hostile strangers—would be indicated.

Such examples might be multiplied and varied indefinitely. It is for the Scouts Officer to exercise his brain and his initiative in teaching his men: first, to observe the various objects visible to them, and then, to make correct deductions as to the significance of what they may see. Too much time can hardly be spent upon this branch of a Scout's Training, and it may be practised even during periods devoted perforce to indoor work; provided there are windows to the lecture-room, or that one end of the marquee used for this purpose remains open.

A good Scout should see everything that is visible, either to his unaided eyesight or through his field-glasses, as the case may be; but in making his Report he should confine himself to those matters to which his attention has been specially directed, it being left to his own commonsense to add anything which he may have learnt, by seeing things of military significance which he was not specifically sent out to observe.

Nothing should be too small for him to notice, but it must depend upon the object of his mission what he reports. If, for example, he is set the task of observing the edge of a wood in which it is suspected that hostile Scouts may be concealed; and, after

Digitized by Google

watching the place for some time and observing no sign or movement disclosing the presence of an enemy, he notices (after perhaps one or two hours' close observation) that pigeons and other birds flying over the country have avoided entering the wood or swerved suddenly in their flight on approaching it, he may safely deduce from this fact (in itself of no military significance) a secondary fact of great importance: namely, that the wood is occupied by some person or persons foreign to its natural state, and that therefore the enemy is probably represented there by some Scout as clever as himself.

It is impossible in a Manual of this size to multiply instances of this sort; but some hints on the deductions to be made from the normal and abnormal actions of wild birds and animals as well as of domesticated species are given in a later Section.

3. *Map-reading*

One of the most important items in the education of a Scout is teaching him to read correctly maps constructed on different scales. Normally the map of any part of the British Islands employed in the Training of Scouts should be the 1" Ordnance Map; but, for reasons of economy, the ½" Map will very often be the one supplied from the Orderly Room for the use of the troops. The French Maps supplied are on a scale of 1:40,000, and these have been prepared

Digitized by Google

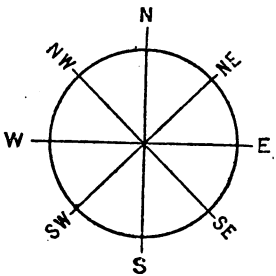
for the use of English troops by being ruled into larger and smaller squares, numbered and lettered in red ink for convenience of reference. There is also an excellent French Map on a much smaller scale: the representative fraction of which is 1:250,000, or a scale of 1″ to 3·95 miles, or 4 miles to 1·014 inches. These are practically the only maps with which the Scout will have to work in Great Britain, France, Flanders, Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg—when he gets there.

It will be well if the Scouts Officer can get hold of an official copy of *Notes on Map Reading, for Use in Army Schools*, a book which he may supplement by purchasing General Hutchinson's *Military Sketching Made Easy and Military Maps Explained*, published by Gale & Polden of Aldershot, which deals exhaustively with the subject. There is also the *Official Manual of Map Reading and Field Sketching*, which he should study; since not everything in one volume is contained in the others.

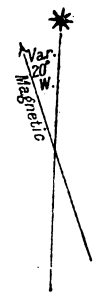
From these books he will learn that the first thing to teach his men is to find the North Point on their maps; and, when using the Compass, to make the proper allowance for the Magnetic Variation of the locality figured on the map. Usually this is given on the map itself, or on the margin; but roughly the variation for the British Isles and Western Europe is at the present time from about 20 degrees to about 12 degrees West of true North. Maps (except for

Digitized by Google

special purposes, as for example the one given as a frontispiece to this volume) are usually drawn with the top of the map due North, the bottom due South, and the sides East and West respectively. This simplifies the instruction of the Scout in Map-reading; as he has only, by the aid of his Compass, watch, or



POINTS OF THE COMPASS.

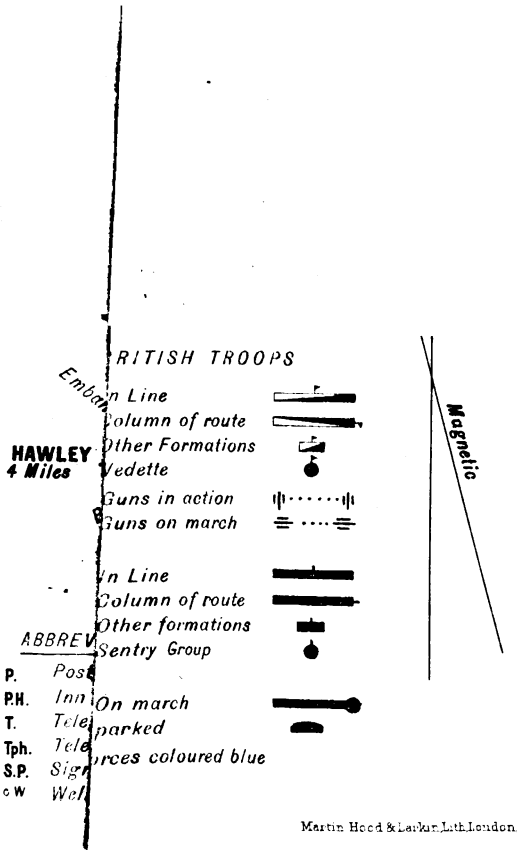


TRUE NORTH AND MAGNETIC NORTH.

the sun, to place himself facing the North with the map in his hand in order to be able to understand his own position in the actual country represented by the map. In maps otherwise drawn the True North and Magnetic North are invariably given (see Illustration).

Next after finding the true North on a map comes the importance of understanding the various symbols,

Digitized by Google



Martin Hood & Larkin, Lith. London, W.C.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

or, as they are termed, " Conventional Signs," by which the actual features of, and objects in, any tract of country are represented upon the flat surface of a map. Few maps are now drawn without the use of colours, simply and easily to be understood: such as Blue for Water, Green for Woods, and Brown for Roads. There are " Conventional Signs " for every object constructed by human agency, such as churches, bridges and railways, as well as for the natural features of the country. These will be found figured on the Plates provided in the *Field Service Pocket Book* and in every Manual on Map-reading and Field-sketching; as well as, in many instances, on the lower margin of the maps (see Plate).

The Scouts Officer will draw these objects on the blackboard and get the members of his class to identify them afterwards; making them take it in turns to draw the symbols of the " Conventional Signs " on the blackboard themselves, for the edification of their comrades. The accompanying illustrations should be sufficient for the instruction of the class in finding the North Point by the Compass, and in learning the Magnetic Variation and " Conventional Signs "; but a few words may be added, supplementary to the diagrams, illustrating the method of finding the North Point by the sun and at night by the stars. For instance, roughly speaking, the sun is always, in Northern Latitudes, due South at noon. If therefore the hour hand of the watch be pointed towards

Digitized by Google

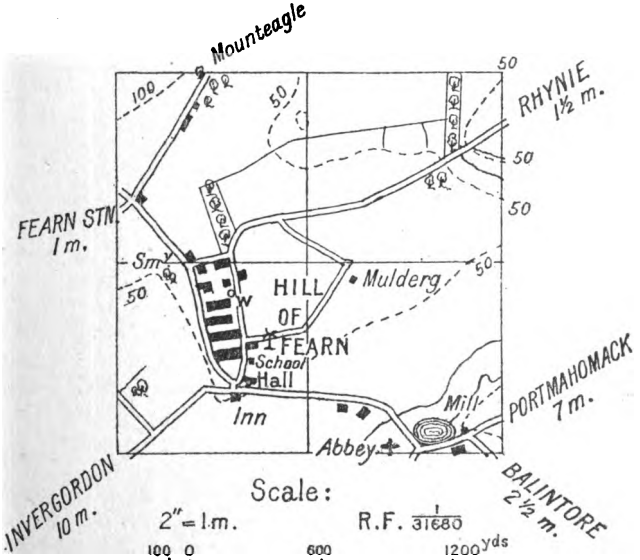
the sun at any time when he is shining between sunrise and sunset, so that the shadow of the hand falls upon the dial immediately underneath it, it is obvious that if the space between the hour-hand and the figure " XII " be halved, the minute, or fraction of a minute, on which the division falls will show due South.

Thus, if the hour-hand at ten o'clock be directed to the sun so that it casts no shadow to right or left, Due South will be found at eleven o'clock; that being half-way between the figures X and XII. The opposite to eleven o'clock (namely five o'clock) will obviously give Due North. At three o'clock in the afternoon this method would find Due South at $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes past twelve, and Due North at $22\frac{1}{2}$ minutes to one.

4. *Copying and Enlarging Maps*

Knowledge of how to copy, enlarge, or reduce Maps will be found invaluable by the Scout. If he is sent to report upon a tract of country or a village, or to make a road or river Report, he will save much valuable time if he can make a copy or an enlargement from the 1″ or $\frac{1}{2}$″ Ordnance Map on a slightly larger scale, say 2″ or 4″ to the mile, of the particular piece of country with which he is immediately concerned. This can be done in a very few minutes by one of the two systems illustrated. It will be seen that the first plan is intended for use when a considerable tract of country is to be covered, or when a

Digitized by Google



METHOD OF ENLARGING A MAP BY SQUARES.

Digitized by Google

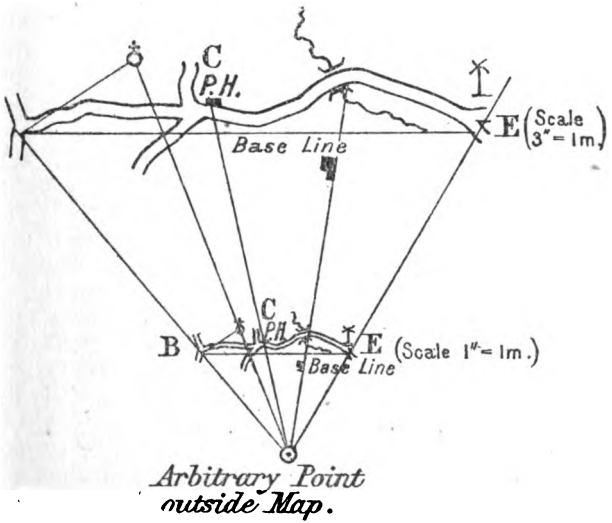
town or village has to be reported on. The second system is, however, the better when only a Report on a length of road or river is required.

The illustrations sufficiently describe the methods to be employed. In the first case a square is drawn upon the map to cover the required tract of country. This is then sub-divided into smaller squares of equal size and a similar square similarly sub-divided is next made on a page of the Field Note-Book; of a size proportionate to the enlargement on the scale required. Beginning with the left-hand upper square, the roads, houses, etc., which appear in the original map are next copied in by eye, and the process repeated with each square in succession until the whole map is copied.

In the second method, applitable chiefly to roads and rivers, a base line being drawn along the road to be copied, two points are taken upon the original map at either end of the stretch of road to be covered, and a third point at about the centre. Below this centre, and at some little distance, an arbitrary point is taken, and from this lines are drawn through the three points already marked, and extended in an opposite direction for double the distance beyond the original points that the starting-point of these lines is from the three points selected on the section of road to be enlarged. A second base line is next ruled, parallel with the base line on the original map, joining the two ends of the enlargement. The latter

Digitized by Google

may be filled in by eye as in the case of the system of enlargement by squares. Other lines may be drawn to objects off the road, from the starting point, or



METHOD OF ENLARGING MAP OF A ROAD OR RIVER.

from any of the other points; and if the correct proportion be truly observed it will be found that an enlargement of the original section of map can be rapidly executed.

Digitized by Google

With enlargements made like this the Scout may set forth on his allotted task and has only, in the course of his journey, to fill in such information of military importance as he may have been sent out to collect, where and when he sees it. For instance, he may enlarge a village shown perhaps on the original map as a minute collection of black dots. On arriving at the spot he can then from actual observation fill in details not shown on the map; and add in the margin particulars as to food and water supply, billeting accommodation, fodder and stabling, telegraphic and telephonic facilities, or whatever special information he may have been ordered to obtain. The accompanying enlargement sufficiently illustrates this point. Of course copies and reductions can be made on the same principle.

The scale upon which the enlargement is done should always be given at the foot of the map together with the R.F.; and a scale of yards may be added. If there is time, roads, water, woods, and contour-lines may be put in with coloured pencils, as the employment of colour always renders a map, however roughly done, more easily and quickly comprehended. All names of places should be entered in upright **BLOCK CAPITALS,** words such as *Mill, Inn, Smithy* and so forth, should be written clearly in italics. Wherever the roads run off the map the names of the places to which they lead should be written on the margin, with the number of miles

Digitized by Google

between the edge of the map and the place named. Particulars should be written at the top of the map showing from what map the enlargement has been made, and stating that the additional particulars have been entered from actual reconnaissance. When completed the map must be signed by the maker with his name, rank, and unit, and also dated.

The map in the frontispiece should serve as a model for the sort of thing required to give information to a General Officer who cannot see for himself the country in which he intends to operate, and whose published map will not give him particulars as to crops, water supply, forage, etc., which the Scout collects in the course of his reconnaissance. It will be a great help to the General and his Staff when they come upon the ground if they are able promptly to identify outstanding landmarks named on the map, and to this end it is useful to draw on the margin small thumb-nail sketches of such objects (see Frontispiece).

The North Point and Magnetic Point, showing the variation for the locality, must also be marked on the map or its margin. It does not follow that the top of a map of this description will necessarily be true North, although it is perhaps more convenient that this should be the case. As a rule, however, it will be necessary to fit in the map to suit the paper at the Scout's disposal, and this may necessitate the North Point lying in some other direction than that of the top of the paper.

Digitized by Google

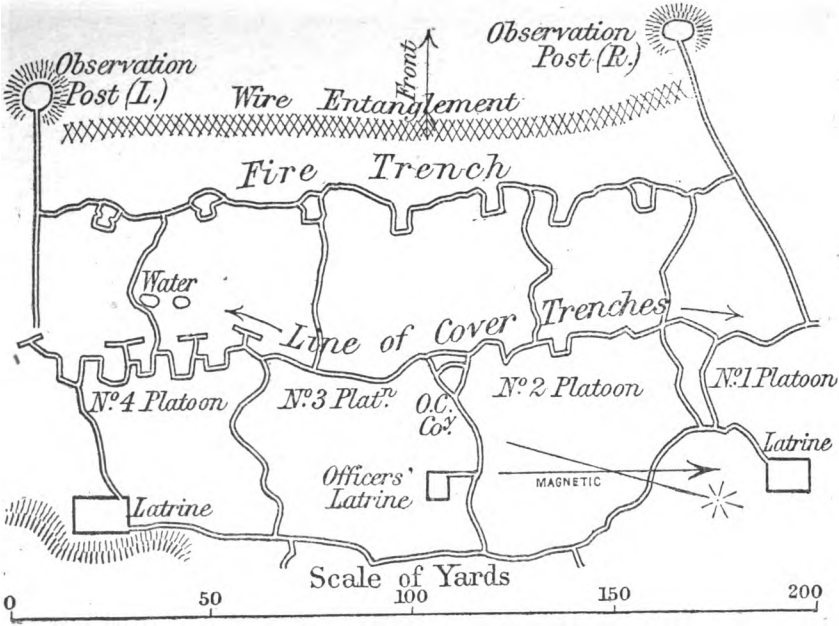
Enlargements of existing maps on a somewhat larger scale will be made on similar principles, when it is necessary to provide plans of trenches that have been made in any country. This is also one of the jobs which pertain to the Scout, and there is no better way of training him to act as a guide to the labyrinth of communicating-trenches, support-trenches, and fire-trenches which now form a great feature of modern warfare than by compelling him to make a plan of them on an enlarged portion of the existing map.

5. *Writing Reports*

Having learnt what he should observe, the Scout's attentions should next be directed upon the proper method of making his Report. In the first instance this Report will probably be made to his immediate superior, of the grade of Scout Sergeant or Scout Corporal, who will transmit it to the Scouts Officer.

Reports are of two kinds: Verbal and Written. In the Verbal Report the Officer is of course able to examine the Scout making it upon any point which may not be clear. In the Written Report, sent over a distance of perhaps several miles, this method of arriving at a true estimate of the value of the Report is not practicable. Therefore the Scouts Officer must give great attention to instructing his Scouts in rendering Reports that shall not only be intelligible to him—to whom the Scout sending the Report is known—

Digitized by Google



PLAN OF SECTION OF TRENCHES.

Digitized by Google

but also to the Staff Officer, situated some distance to the rear, who does not possess this advantage.

The essential features of a Report are:

(1) That it should be clear to whom the Report is sent.

(2) That the place from which it is sent, the date and time and the number of the message should be stated.

(3) That if it contains any reference to a map, that map shall be identified by its scale, sheet number, section letter, etc.

(4) That the information contained in the Report should be clearly written under numbered paragraphs, each paragraph dealing only with one subject.

(5) That the handwriting of the Report should be clearly legible and that the names of all places, persons and Units mentioned should be printed in Block Capitals.

(6) That the Report should be signed by the Scout, and that the signature should be followed by the designation of his Unit, the name of the place from which he sent it, the time at which it was sent and the name of the messenger to whom it was entrusted.

Written Orders to Scouts by their Commander will be constructed in the same way. In all cases, they should be written with an ordinary pencil in Army

Digitized by Google

Book 153, and a copy kept by means of the carbon sheet provided. Indelible pencils must never be used by Scouts.

It is extraordinarily difficult to get men to learn how Reports should be written. Therefore, it is impossible to give them too much practice in the writing of Reports. On wet days, or in otherwise inclement weather, when it is inadvisable to carry out any programme of work out-of-doors, practice in Report Writing may be utilised with great advantage to occupy the time of Scouts in Training. Such practice will in the long run be found invaluable in training men to render correct Reports; even when, as at the Front—owing to the exigencies of active service and the danger of the Scout being shot or captured by the enemy—such reports have to be shorn of many of their particulars, or written upon rice-paper (which it is the duty of the Scout to swallow or otherwise dispose of when he is wounded or captured) or, possibly, when the Report can only with safety be rendered in Verbal form.

Wherever possible, during the elementary stages of training, at any rate, Scouts should be given some one or more definite objects upon which to report. Later on they may be given more scope. Thus two men may be sent along a stretch of road for a given distance and required to report upon the nature of the road and of the country immediately bordering it: one man being made responsible for the right-hand

Digitized by Google

side and the other for the left-hand side. Or a Scout may be told to traverse the bank of a river or canal and report upon the various features of military importance which he may observe on the journey. If any special features, such as bridges, fords, the strength of the current, the gradient of a road or the accommodation for man and beast obtainable in the vicinity, be required, this should be definitely stated to the Scout before he is despatched on his mission. The Scouts Officer should form some estimate of the time his man should take in acquiring the information, and should award or withhold praise for his work according to how this time is adhered to or exceeded.

Other important forms of Reports are those on villages and farms which it is intended that troops should occupy or be billeted in, whether on the line of march or for more extended periods.

Special Reports will have to be made on the water, forage and food supplies of a district; upon woods and forests and the best ways of traversing them; as well, of course, as upon positions occupied, or likely to be occupied, by the enemy's forces. Railways, their condition, adaptability to the needs of the troops that may use them, suitability for detraining men and horses and loading or unloading supplies, and the telegraphic and telephonic facilities of any particular centre, also form suitable subjects upon which to obtain Reports. Appended are a few specimen Reports, actually made during the Training

Digitized by Google

of Scouts, which will illustrate effectively the manner in which this part of the Training should be carried out. The first of these takes the form of an Order by a Scouts Officer to his Scout Corporal, which clearly shows him what he and his men are expected to do. The second is a specimen of a very simple Report on a road, in which the Scout is practised in reporting what he himself observed in traversing a distance of a couple of miles, without being given the task of ascertaining information on any particular point. By giving the Scout a free hand in this way the Officer is enabled to appreciate his possibilities as an observer.

It is a good plan to send out several Scouts in pairs at the commencement of their Training by different roads, and to collect them together within a specified time at the same *rendezvous*, where the Officer will meet them. He may then allow them to fall out and smoke while he examines the Written Reports which each has handed in. Finally he will examine each man on his Report, make any corrections or alterations that are called for with a red pencil, and return the Reports to the men who have written them, with an order to study them at their leisure, so that similar mistakes may be avoided by them in future. By this plan it will be found that progress in Report Writing is much expedited, and that the necessity for covering the same ground repeatedly may be avoided.

Digitized by Google

ORDER TO SCOUTS

To Cpl. A. D. Cameron i/c " A " Coy. Scouts —th Battln. —— Rgt., LOANDHU.

No. 1. July 15, 1915. 1.15 p.m. (Refr. 1" Ord. Map Scot. Sheet 94)

1. You will proceed by the **TAIN-BALANTORE** rd. to the village of **HILL OF FEARN** with the scouts under your charge.
2. On arrival you will tell off 1 scout to make a sketch-map of the village; 1 scout to collect information as to food and water supplies; 1 scout to ascertain information as to billeting accommodation, doctors, telegraphic and telephonic facilities, and 1 scout to ascertain what fodder and stabling can be provided.
3. You will collect these separate reports and send them to me at **MOUNTEAGLE FARM** by 3 p.m., together with any special report you may have to make.
4. You will await further orders from me at **HILL OF FEARN.**

A. D. BRIGAND.
Lieut. O.C. Battln. Scouts,
—th Battln. —— Regt.

LOANDHU.
By Hand 1.15 p.m.

SIMPLE ROAD REPORT

To " O.C." Battln. Scouts, —th Battln., —— Rgt., VIEWFIELD.

No. 1. 29/7/15. 11 a.m.

1. I traversed the road **TAIN—HIGHMILLS—THE RESERVOIR** between 9.30 and 11 a.m. to-day.
2. *On the right-hand side* after clearing the town of **TAIN** I found at 800× at **HARTFIELD** a burn crossing road *R.* to

Digitized by Google

L., at 1,000 × a cottage 20 × fm. road, at 1,600 yards **GLENALDIE**, and 100 × beyond **ALDIE WATER** crossing rd. *R.* to *L.* just below turning.

3. Turning *R.* running water on right side, slight up-gradient, at 900 × Reservoir capable of supplying the town of **TAIN**.
4. *On the left-hand side* at 800 × burn, at 1,100 × occupn. road leading to **ALDIE MILL** (½ m.) at 1,600 × cottages with **ALDIE WATER** running below.
5. Taking Right-hand road at **HIGH MILLS** on left at 500 × small fir-wood, at 900 × main road **TAIN—SCOTSBURN—INVERNESS.**

(Signed) C. BYRNE,
Cpl. i/c Battln. Scouts,
—th Battln., —— Rgt.

VIEWFIELD,
11.15 a.m.

REPORT OF O.C. SCOUTS

To G.O.C. White Force, ROCKFIELD HOUSE.

No. 1. 23/9/15.

1. The outposts were withdrawn at 5 o'clock a.m.
2. Since 6 o'clock a.m. the country on the front **WOOD OF ARBOLL—LOWER PITKERRIE—MEIKLE RHYNIE** has been covered.
3. No hostile troops have been seen, and touch has not been obtained with White Scouts on either flank.
4. I shall await orders here until 8 a.m. and if none arrive move forward on the front as detailed above.

A. D. BRIGAND,
Lieut. Comdg. Battln. Scouts,
—th Battln., —— Rgt.

LOWER TARREL,
7.5 a.m.
Despatched by Cyclist Messenger.

Digitized by Google

REPORT SUPPLEMENTARY TO MAP

(*Frontispiece*)

Report of Field Roads, Tracks, and Footpaths with surrounding country on the line **WESTER ARBOLL—KNOCKNAHAR—LOCHSLIN,** and **WESTER ARBOLL—LOWER PITKERRIE—MEIKLE RHYNIE—MOUNTEAGLE.**

I. *The Roads.*—Are all unmetalled, fenced with wire chiefly, very rough, much overgrown with gorse, impassable for Infy. in 4's, or G.S. Wagons, no gradients. Good metalled road from **MEIKLE RHYNIE—RHYNIE** (1½ m.). No track to **MOUNTEAGLE** after passing **RHYNIE,** but country open and practicable for Cavalry and Infantry. Vehicles would be stopped by deep cut known as "The Canal" running S. from **LOCHEYE.**

II. *Rate of Marching.*—Rate of Marching (Battalion) 2½ m. an hour owing to condition of field roads and tracks.

III. *Houses.*—Six large farms and many small scattered crofts. Several ruined buildings suitable for defensive purposes.

IV. *Water.*—The wells shown on the map are full, and the water good. The small lochs near **COCKLE HILL** are nearly dry, but impassable for troops owing to the boggy nature of their beds.

V. *The Country.*—Is open, for the most part flat or very slightly undulating. Fields fenced with wire: a great deal of it barbed. The crops are cut and to a great extent cleared. The dykes and gorse-patches afford a certain amount of cover from view. There is very little wood, chiefly coniferous. Soil light, sand and gravel; water is found in most parts near the surface. Lateral communication between the main roads is easy, subject to the limitations of the Field-tracks as set forth above. The view is not much restricted except towards the coast beyond **N. BALMUCKY.** Natural cover from rifle and artillery fire is poor.

L. C. R. D. J. CAMERON,
Lieut. 8th (S.) Battln. Cameron Highlanders,
20/9/15.

Digitized by Google

FORM OF HOSTILE AIR-RAID REPORT

Information to be Telegraphed or Telephoned.

1. Person sending original message (no intermediaries).
2. Place from which sent.
3. Time message sent.
4. Origin of report, whether Scouts, Detacht., Police, etc.
5. Nature of aircraft seen. Airship, Zeppelin, Aeroplane, Seaplane.
6. Colour, distinguishing marks, etc.
7. Seen only. Seen and heard. Heard only.
8. Where.
9. Actual time of appearance of aircraft.
10. Approaching (from which direction).
11. Proceeding (in which direction).
12. Whether dropping bombs: incendiary or explosive.
13. Confirmed by.
14. Person sending message.

(*b*) OUTDOOR WORK

1. *Judging Distance*

Judging Distance is as important an item in the Training of Scouts as it is for shooting purposes. Most Scouts will have gone through their Musketry Course before they come under the hands of the Scouts Officer, and will therefore have learnt a certain amount about Judging Distance. It is well, however, to keep them in practice and to exercise them in

Digitized by Google

judging distances much greater than any with which they are troubled during the Musketry Course.

A good way to exercise them in judging distances up to 1,000 yards or so is to take the class out to some spot near camp where there is a tract of undulating and irregular country, and there to draw them up on a piece of rising ground. Two men will be provided with ten or a dozen flags and with written orders, unknown to the class, telling them at what distances after leaving the spot and marching in a straight line in a given direction they are to plant the flags. The distances will be calculated in yards, 120 paces being taken roughly to equal 100 yards. As soon as the flag-bearers have planted the last flag the class will be invited to judge the distances at which each flag has been planted. Men who make very erroneous guesses may be told off to pace the distance to the flag whose distance they have proved themselves unable to estimate. An object lesson such as this will soon teach them to judge distances correctly.

Another method of teaching men to judge distances is to take the class to some rising ground which affords an extensive view over a varied expanse of country and to point out various objects such as church towers, light-houses, big woods, and castles, at long distances, and to ask them to estimate what these distances are. They may then be corrected by reference to the 1" Map of the country; the ranges of the various objects being measured off by means of

Digitized by Google

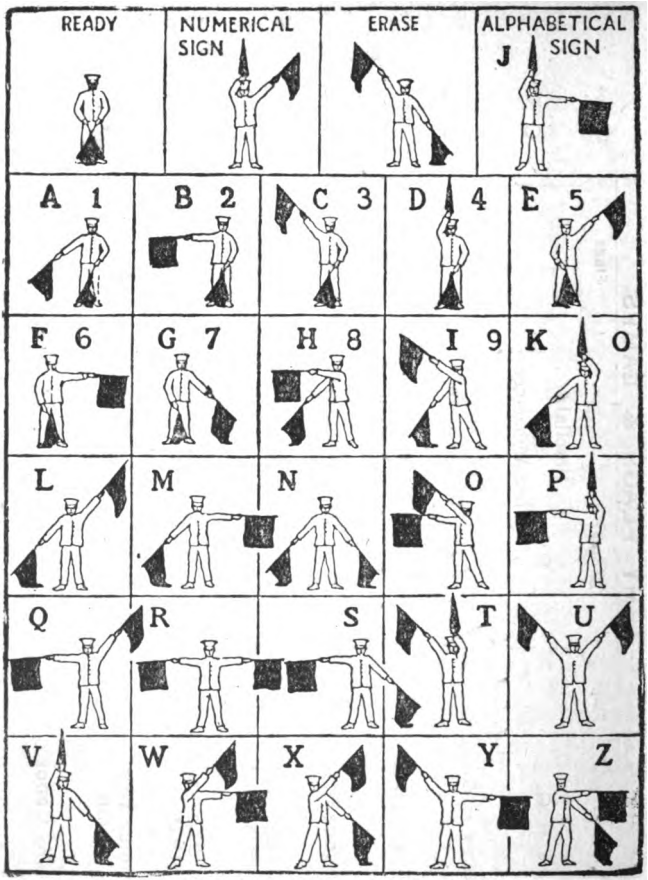
the scales of miles and of yards provided on a protractor, or in the margin of the map, from the latter of which they may be taken by means of a pair of dividers.

Judging Distance will be found to provide a means of filling up time that might otherwise be wasted during the progress of instruction in other branches of Outdoor Scouting.

2. *Semaphore Signalling*

Scouts, without being expert signallers, should yet be instructed in this branch of military knowledge sufficiently to enable them to communicate news from a distance with some facility. They will have to work, owing to their presumed proximity to the enemy, chiefly under cover; and, therefore, will, in most cases, be unable to use the flags. They should, however, at first be taught with flags and accustomed to send brief messages by this means. When actually Scouting they will have to depend on their hands for signalling, and must be instructed, when sending messages to the rear, to keep themselves entirely hidden from observation by anyone to their front: whether behind a bush, a haystack, a wall or a building. As of course it will be impossible for the receiver of the message to signal any reply, as that would be to give his position away to the enemy's scouts, any message to be transmitted to Scouts ahead

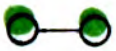
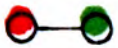
Digitized by Google

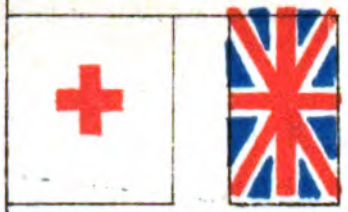
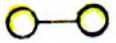
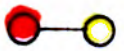
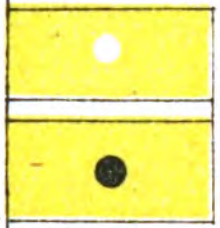


SEMAPHORE SIGNALS.

Digitized by Google

ARMY FLAGS & LAMPS

	Flags	Lamps
G. H. Q.		
Army H. Q.		
Divisional H.Q.		
Brigade H.Q.		
H.Q. Lines of Communication		
Base & Garrison H.Q.		
Ammunition Column		
Supply Depot		

	Flags	Lamps
Hospital or Field Ambulance		
Ordnance Department		
Veterinary Hospital		
Telegraph Office		None
Army Post Office		
Army Pay Office		None
Latrines		*British Troops* / *Native Troops*
Engineer Park		None

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

of the main body must be sent to them by special messenger.

The ordinary communicating Signals as laid down in the *Infantry Training Manual* may, of course, be adapted for the use of Scouts in some circumstances. Whistle Signals can seldom be used in actual warfare, as they would tend to betray the presence of Scouts to the enemy and should therefore be sparingly used during Training. The hunting horn, however, may be suitably employed as a signal to collect the Scouts at the conclusion of field operations.

Lessons in identifying the various Army Flags and Lamps distinguishing Headquarters, etc., should also be given (see Plate), and will serve as material for lectures and memory tests on wet days.

3. *Identifying a Country*

This is another simple but very essential practice for Outdoor Work. The class must be taken to some eminence, or to the side of a hill from which a good view of a country which they do not know beforehand is obtainable. They should be allowed to look at it, then shown the map and ordered to identify on the latter the places which they have seen in the former. The process may be reversed or the two processes combined in one lesson. With this should go, also, instruction in setting the map by means of a compass; so that it corresponds with the country

Digitized by Google

it represents; and the men should be taught at the same time how to identify their own position on the map and in the country. Judging distance competitions may be arranged at the same time.

4. *Road and River Reconnaissance*

Although during the present phase of this war Reconnaissances of this description are not very much required, they yet form very good practice in training the powers of observation and the memories of Scouts. It is therefore essential that a certain amount of time should be spent in this manner, more especially as it may be combined with training in the writing of Reports.

The method advocated in the section on enlarging maps may be adopted; or the men may be practised in jotting down in their Note-books what they see while traversing a given stretch of road or a river. The Field-book has somewhat gone out of favour in military circles since the South African Campaign; but it still possesses many advantages in the matter of surveying and subsequently of plotting a road and the country immediately adjoining it. Although the latter is somewhat outside the scope of ordinary Scouting and can, of course, only be properly carried out by using a Prismatic Compass, the principle of the Field-book may be suitably applied to the Reconnaissance of a road by Scouts. By ruling two

Digitized by Google

parallel lines up the centre of the back page of his Field Note-book, the Scout can proceed as though that space represented the actual road along which he is moving. At the bottom of the page he will place a mark, thus : ⊙, to indicate his starting-point. He will then march on until he comes to some object right or left of the road, and having counted his paces up to that point will enter the number of yards in the Chain Column or road-space, and write or sketch in the margin on the correct side particulars as to the house, church, or other object which may be there, estimating its distance roughly from the side of the road. He will also be able in the same way to give particulars of the road itself, its condition, gradients, and so forth, and by the time he has reached the top of the page should possess a valuable series of memoranda from which to construct a clear and useful Report.

5. *Reconnaissance of Villages, Farms, Woods, etc.*

These are all practices of great importance and easily carried out in any country. In the first instance, Scouts should be sent, either singly or in pairs, to reconnoitre and report upon a small village or farm, and it should be left to them to use their own judgment as to what to enter in their Reports. In this way the Scouts Officer will be able to form a judgment as to the qualities of observation and

Digitized by Google

memory individual Scouts may possess. He should, of course, have either previously visited the village or farm, or should do so after the Scouts have handed in their Reports, in order effectively to check their information and to point out any omissions they may have made.

Subsequently, men should be sent to particular places with definite instructions as to what subjects they are required to report upon ; such, for example, as the quantity of fodder, or the amount of accommodation that can be provided. Later on, they should be exercised in approaching and gathering information without exposing themselves to the observation of the inhabitants. In reconnoitring woods, especially large woods, the finding of paths leading through the wood, or reporting upon the amount of cover such wood provides, especially from observers in hostile aeroplanes, the natural obstacles met with, and the adaptability of the wood for purposes of defence or concealment, should be the main objects to be kept in view. Scouts should be instructed when aeroplanes are passing overhead to lie down under cover and on no account to turn their faces to look at the aircraft, as nothing is so clearly visible from above as the uncovered human face.

Scouts Officers and N.C.O.s may also be required to assist Artillery Observation Officers. This means that they will have to take up concealed positions whence they can observe the enemy and transmit

Digitized by Google

word to the Artillery Commander several miles in rear. The telephone is, of course, used for much of this work, especially by the Germans; whose observing officers have been found concealed in corn-stacks, in the roofs of houses, and even amongst piles of their own dead immediately in front of our lines, having a telephone with them, by means of which they could announce our slightest movement to their gunners and give them the exact range.

For practice in this work during Training, the Scouts Officer should provide a ball of string dyed dull green to resemble as nearly as possible a length of field-telephone wire. This he may extend over the ground behind him and carry with him into some outhouse which he is using as an observing post, setting his Scouts the task of finding and cutting the string.

6. *Tracking*

This is another important and not very difficult branch of Scout-craft. It may be carried out, in the first instance, along dusty or muddy roads and subsequently practised across country. At first it will be found difficult, especially with town-bred men, to teach them to see any significance in the tracks, more or less visible, which every man, beast, or bird leaves upon the ground which it has traversed; but a very little practice will soon enable them to

Digitized by Google

acquire the art, and it is so fascinating a pursuit that only the laziest of men can fail to fall in love with it. Opportunities may be sought when marching the men to and from the ground selected for the day's training, to point out the different tracks of horses, vehicles, cycles, and human beings left upon the road: though it must be impressed upon them that Scouts while Tracking must not bend all their attention to the ground, but must regard signs left elsewhere.

As an example of what may be done in this direction I may relate a small incident which occurred during the training of some Scouts under my charge last summer. We had carried out night-work at a certain farm, not far from a main road. The Scouts had been recalled at daybreak and allowed to obtain a few hours' sleep before it was time to cook their breakfast. Taking a stroll along the occupation road leading from some farm cottages shortly before seven o'clock, I noticed some tracks in the dust which had not been there when I returned from visiting a standing patrol immediately after dawn. Following these tracks on the main road and along it right-handed for half-a-mile, I arrived at a smithy where I was greeted by the blacksmith. I said to him, "You have been visited this morning by a young woman, fair-haired, either good-looking or somewhat conceited, not wearing a hat, smartly-dressed, and carrying a bulky object, either an empty bucket or a basket in her

Digitized by Google

right hand." He replied, " Oh, yes, Sir, that's Lola, but you are wrong about the bucket."

I said, " Why did she visit your smithy this morning ? " He then told me that she had called for the milk of a cow, specially reserved for her mistress, on her way to her daily employment as servant to an officer's wife residing in a house some little distance farther on ; but that she did not bring a can as she was in the habit of leaving that over-night, on her way home to her mother's cottage where she slept. I insisted that she had carried a can, and a large can, that morning, and upon inquiry of the smith's wife, it turned out that such was the case, a larger quantity of milk than usual being required that morning, and the girl having borrowed a pail for the purpose from the farm on which her father was employed.

The signs from which the above correct deductions were made were, as a matter of fact, sufficiently simple. The tracks were fresh, they were those of a woman's shoe of small size, either new or in very good repair, which argued that the wearer was well dressed, as it is seldom that a woman who wears good shoes is otherwise badly dressed. From the evenness of the footsteps it was evident that she carried herself well, and was probably, therefore, above the middle height for a woman, as very short countrywomen rarely walk well. It also indicated a certain pride in her appearance consistent with her being good-looking. In passing under a bush at the corner of the road, she

Digitized by Google

had left a long fair hair on an overhanging briar; and this hair carried no dew as did the leaves of the briar, which showed it had only recently been left there. It was therefore plain that she had light hair and was not wearing a hat. The fact that she was carrying the can was shown by her tracks constantly bearing off to the left, as though she feared that what she was carrying would rub against her frock. That she carried it in her right hand was shown by her keeping so close to one side of the road, which was bounded by a stone wall, that there would have been no room for her to carry anything in her left hand, and that the can was empty was shown by the fact that she did not change it from one hand to another during the whole distance. Needless to say, I had not seen the girl leave the cottages, nor had I been in the district previously; while a roadside smithy was about the last place to which one would have expected anyone coming from a farm to go for milk.

Simple exercises like these should be set Scouts in Training, and they should be encouraged to work out problems of a similar kind for themselves.

Another useful practice is that of setting Scouts to track each other. In the first place, this may be done by making the advanced Scouts leave signs as to the route they have taken. The best sign for this purpose is that formerly used by the gypsies, who may have copied it from the habits (when going up and down a stream) of otters which bite off small

Digitized by Google

pieces of reed and lay them crosswise on the bank in the form of a letter X, one end of the X being narrower than the other, and the narrow end pointing in the direction in which the otter or the gypsy has travelled. The latter call these " paterans."

In a hostile country, Scouts must be careful not to use so large or so conspicuous a pateran as to attract the notice of enemy Scouts. The pateran should be laid wherever the Scout turns off from the route he has been pursuing. It should be laid uniformly either on the right or the left-hand side of the turning and close to the edge of the road or path, so that it may not be disturbed by casual traffic. The twigs, sticks, straws or other natural objects of which the pateran is formed should be taken from the immediate neighbourhood. For instance, to bring two fir-twigs from a distance and lay them under a birch wood in a place from which no fir-tree can be observed, would be at once to invite the attention of hostile Scouts; and they might be able to deduce therefrom information as to the direction whence the layer of the pateran had come.

Other methods of teaching Scouts to track each other—such as by footprints purposely left in soft or muddy ground, by breaking the top fronds of bracken or sprigs of heather, by dropping a few grains of corn at intervals, or by notching the bark of trees in places where the following Scout will have learnt to look for them, may be left to the ingenuity of the capable Scouts Officer.

Digitized by Google

7. *Observation and Deduction from the Actions of Birds and Beasts*

It is most important that Scouts should be taught to watch closely the actions of all the living objects of the countryside. Birds and beasts living under normal conditions seldom perform any action without some compelling reason. It is for the Scout, having noted the action, to decide whether the cause thereof has or has not any bearing upon whatever military work he is himself performing. Thus, if he is watching a country with the object of discovering whether it contains any hostile Scouts, and he sees, for instance, a flock of rooks rise suddenly from a field in which they have been feeding, he may be pretty certain that they have been disturbed by a man carrying a rifle or gun. Rooks will seldom move for an ordinary labourer or a farmer merely carrying a stick. The direction in which they take flight will give the Scout an indication of the direction from which their disturber is approaching.

Unless they are natural enemies, like weasels and rabbits, wild animals and even domesticated beasts very seldom take any notice of each other's movements, unless the latter should be dictated by the menace of some human being. In this case both birds and animals will frequently give away the presence of an otherwise hidden enemy, as well, of course, as that of the Scout himself. Thus a man

Digitized by Google

creeping up a hedgerow may put out a fox or startle rabbits whose actions will at once betray his whereabouts. Cattle will follow a man creeping up a ditch, and blackbirds will alarm a whole neighbourhood by shrieking loudly as they fly from point to point in front of a crawling Scout, while jays and missel-thrushes scolding in a covert are certain indications of an inimical presence there.

At night, when the countryside is quiet, all such indications become naturally more important. Pheasants calling in a wood indicate the presence of some abnormal visitor. On the contrary, a covey of partridges calling in a field at night will show the Scout that everything is normal, and that he may safely cross it without encountering an enemy. On his entering the field, however, the partridges will become quiet unless he gets very close to them, when they will rise with a disconcerting whirr of wings and give the fact of his presence there away.

The habits of different beasts and birds under given circumstances vary considerably, and the Scout in Training will have to study them for himself and so learn to make correct deductions. When Scouts are practising the work of approaching a position unseen, or watching from a place of concealment for the approach of hostile Scouts, it may be safely said that no indication however small and apparently insignificant, given by the wild life of the district, can be disregarded.

Digitized by Google

To take a concrete example, on one occasion I set my Scouts the task of approaching, from the distance of a mile or more and through a thickish wood, a farm on the hilltop, in front of which I had concealed myself. They failed to locate my hiding-place, but otherwise they performed their task so successfully that I neither heard nor saw them until they reached the farm itself. Nevertheless, I was kept informed of all their movements and could accurately guess their whereabouts from time to time by observing the actions of various birds and beasts. For instance, a roe-deer emerged from the edge of the wood, and after staring back in the direction in which she had seen the man who had disturbed her, went off right-handed over the hill. Next, the actions of some sheep in a park outside the wood showed me that one of the Scouts was crawling along the boundary ditch. Presently a flight of rooks rising from a field of potatoes showed me that a man carrying fire-arms had appeared close to them at some point outside my range of vision. Finally, the barking of the dogs at the farm told me that the Scouts had reached their *rendezvous*.

When watching a house, the movements of the domestic birds and animals about the place must be carefully observed. Thus the barking of dogs, the flying out of pigeons and any excitement in the poultry-yard may afford valuable hints. In this connection, however, it must be remembered that all

Digitized by Google

animals very speedily become accustomed to the presence of human strangers, if they remain quiet. They seem to forget about them. It does not follow, therefore, that because everything appears normal in the locality under observation hostile Scouts or observing officers are not present. They may have been there so long and remained so effectively concealed that their presence has escaped the recollection of birds or beasts who were disturbed on their arrival.

These general principles apply just as much to wild-nature in the fighting zone as they do at home. Flocks of starlings will feed peacefully in front of a battery whose guns are actually being fired, and robins and other birds come into the trenches even when sniping and bombing are being carried out; but a careful study of their habits under conditions to which they have become accustomed, will serve, very often, to give warning of the imminence of some cause for alarm of which they have only just become aware. So that even a rat scurrying down a communication trench or round a traverse may serve to warn the observant soldier against surprise.

8. *Simple Field-sketching and Map-making*

Every Scout should, in addition to knowing how to copy and enlarge a map on the lines laid down in a preceding Section of this Manual, be taught how to make simple field-sketches and maps without any aid beyond his compass, pencil and notebook. Only

Digitized by Google

the roughest of sketches are expected from Scouts, except in a more advanced stage; when panorama sketching may be indulged in; although this sort of work will more generally be done by the Scouts Officer himself or by some specially-selected Scout N.C.O.

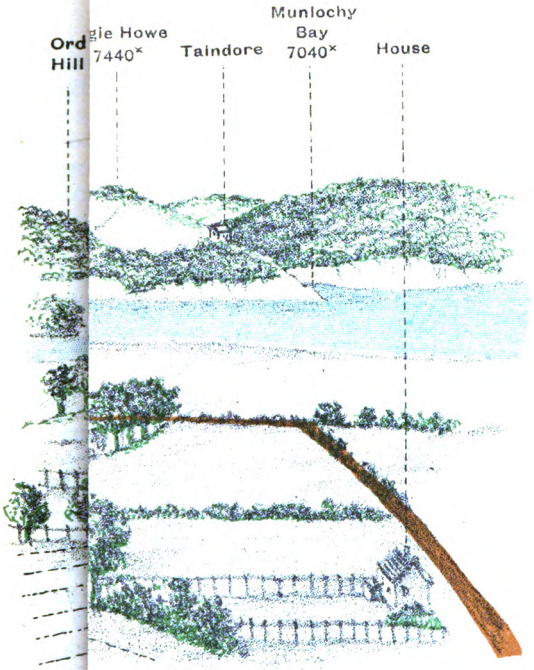
A few lessons may be given to all Scouts on drawing small maps or plans of selected portions of country, farmsteads, and so forth, in a rough and ready, but accurate, way. They should be instructed to put in the North Point and to draw their plan or sketch roughly to scale, to use the " Conventional Signs " to represent the objects depicted, not to omit essential features, to render the map quite clear, and above all accurate.

Only very brief periods of time should be allowed for the making of these sketches, as if they cannot be done rapidly one of their chief objects is defeated. Scouts in Training who display no aptitude for the making of rough plans and sketches should be stopped, and switched on to some other branch of their work more suited to their capacity.

Full instructions in the art of making a panorama sketch will be found in the *Manual of Map Reading and Field Sketching* and in *Military Sketching Made Easy*, but the principle upon which the panorama sketch is made may very briefly be described.

There is no scale to be considered. The sketcher merely selects a suitable position opposite the centre of the tract of country of which he is required to

Digitized by Google



Inverness
I. S.

R. D. J. Cameron

Lieut:
Cameron Highrs.

Martin Hood & Larkan, Lith. London, W.C.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

make a sketch. He then holds up before him at arm's length his Field-book or the piece of paper upon which the sketch is to be made, with the centre of the paper or of the book immediately in front of him. The paper will then exactly cover the extent of country which it is possible for him to transfer to his page. He will then examine the country with a view to finding a natural horizontal line (which may be formed either by a road, a railway, a line of trees, or the embankment of a river), and will draw a horizontal line representing this natural line as nearly as possible across the centre of his paper.

Beginning on the left-hand side, he will select an object, such as a hill on the sky-line, with which to commence his sketch. By holding his pencil perpendicularly at arm's length (the same distance at which he held the book or paper) and measuring the apparent height of this object above the natural horizontal line chosen, by pushing the point of his thumb up or down the pencil, and then measuring off this distance on the pencil above the horizontal line on the paper, he will get the correct position on the paper of the natural object. Similarly, by holding the pencil horizontally at arm's length he can measure off the apparent distances of all the features in the landscape: either from each other or from the right or left edge of his paper. The details can then be sketched in rapidly by eye.

In the same way the details of the foreground, or

Digitized by Google

space between the horizontal line and the lower edge of the paper can be inserted, and a good and useful view of the country to his front rapidly prepared. The background should be outlined firmly but lightly, the middle-distance bordering on the horizontal line may be put in more heavily, and the country between the point (marked with a " P " and a dot) from which the sketcher sees it, will be filled in with a still darker pencil and in more elaborate detail. If there is time, colours may be employed to bring out the water, woods, roads, etc., more clearly. No attempt should be made to reproduce the actual shapes of buildings: only conventional forms of trees, blocks of houses, and so forth being employed.

At the top of the page the names of all prominent objects (taken from a map of the district) should be printed in, and lines drawn from them vertically to the objects themselves. The ranges of these objects from the observer should be entered with the names, and may be obtained either by mekometer, the Barmstrode Range Finder, or, more simply, may be taken off the map by means of a scale of yards or a protractor. Whichever method has been employed should be notified at the foot of the map, where, also, the name of the place from which the sketch was made and the point of the Compass which the sketcher was facing, will be stated. The sketch will be signed and dated in the bottom right-hand corner in the usual way.

Digitized by Google

The sketcher must be careful not to change his position during the progress of his work or he may not recover his exact point of view. He must, further, be careful always to hold his pencil at exactly the same distance from his eye when making his measurements, as if this is not done the sketch will be altogether out of proportion. A simple way of ensuring this uniformity of distance is to fasten to the pencil a piece of string with a knot at the other end, and to hold the knot between his teeth when taking his measurements. The specimen panorama sketch appended (which was made and completely finished off in colour in less than an hour, on the double page of Army Book 153, although it covers more than five miles of country from left to right) will show the beginner what is expected of him in this direction.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VI

ADVANCED TRAINING

(*c*) DAY WORK

1. *Cross-country Work*

ONCE the training of Scouts has reached the advanced stage, the Officer charged with their training will have to devote his attention to carrying out future practices in the open country away from main roads and thoroughfares. This will necessitate work on the roughest of ground, embracing thick woods, commons covered with heather and whin-bushes, marshes and bogs, ploughed land, and so forth; to which he will find that all except the keenest of his town-bred men will possess an insuperable objection. They will show a natural tendency to avoid getting their feet wet or their legs full of thorns or prickles, and he will have all his work cut out to teach them how to negotiate rough country, in spite of being discommoded by its various unpleasantnesses, without exposing themselves to the observation, or perhaps to the bullets, of hostile Scouts.

Digitized by Google

It must be impressed upon them that a Scout, whether or not he succeeds in collecting the information to obtain which he has been despatched, and even if he returns with it in safety has, if he has been seen by the enemy, only performed a moiety of his task. The enemy, if he has seen the Scout, will be able to form a tolerably correct idea of the amount of information regarding his dispositions which has been secured, and will make alterations in his plans accordingly. This will, to a large extent, nullify the work of the Scout. As a matter of fact, in modern warfare a Scout seen is usually a Scout shot; and this fact cannot be too often nor too cogently impressed upon the minds of the men in training.

Men will not learn easily when moving across country, especially when the ground is bad, or the grass is wet, to lie down and crawl. They will, at most, go upon their hands and knees; thereby exposing the most obvious, and incidentally the most vulnerable portion of their bodies, to the view and aim of the enemy.

Until a Scout can cross a given tract of country, partly open and partly covered, without being seen by an Officer specially posted to observe his movements, he is of no use as a Scout.

The chief duty of the Scout Officer during Advanced Training, therefore, is to see that his men can do their work in the open without being seen, and at night without being heard.

Digitized by Google

2. *Observing and Reporting from Cover*

As soon as men have learnt to work across country without being seen, they may be instructed in the art of taking cover in positions whence they are able to observe special tracts of country, or selected farms, or villages, likely to be occupied by the enemy.

This cover may be of many descriptions. For instance, a tree in full foliage may shelter the observer, or a thick whin bush, or a hedgerow, the roof of a barn or a house from which a tile or slate has been removed, a pigeon-loft, the cupola of a stable whence a view may be obtained through the louvres, or even the twisted top of a cornstack. Many other points of vantage will suggest themselves to the minds of the student or will be found by him in actual practice. It must be remembered that the Scout under cover who is seen, and the Scout whose business it is to discover him but fails to do so, are equally deficient in their duties, and both require further instruction.

It will be a useful practice for the Scouts Officer to proceed to some place, say a farmstead, with which his men are not acquainted, some half an hour or so in advance of them, and there conceal himself in a position difficult for them to ascertain, but from which he can observe their movements in approaching the place. After taking up his position he should, in his Field Note-book, keep a timed record of everything he observes in the course of the hour or so during which

Digitized by Google

his Scouts are searching for him; and having given them what, in his judgment, is ample time to discover his hiding-place, should blow his horn to call them together, and after showing them his position should, by means of this diary, give them a lecture on their shortcomings, or the reverse. A specimen of such a record is appended.

OBSERVING OFFICER'S NOTES

ARDLARACH,
19/8/15.

11.6 a.m.—Observed scout crossing (l. to r.) between rough ground and pine-wood against background of oats. Range 400×.

11.12 ,, —Heard lambs newly weaned bleating in lower l.h. corner of field and toward pine-wood.

11.14 ,, —A cat hurried thro' the brake in which I lay as tho' it had been disturbed by the approach of someone from the front.

11.19 ,, —Heard thrush scolding in planting right of house in my rear.

11.21 ,, —2 sheep grazing l. front undisturbed. Birds still scolding in wood on r.

11.24 ,, —Observed 4 warships steering N. past **ROCKFIELD**. Range 12 m.

11.32 ,, —Sheep on l. front restless. Bird calling in wood to r.

11.37 ,, —Hd. footsteps nr. gate on l. flank, passing behind me along path without pausing. Wind rising.

11.39 ,, —5th warship observed steering N. past **ROCKFIELD**.

11.41 ,, —Machine-gun fired on beach to N.E. twice.

11.55 ,, —Door slammed at outhouses.

11.59 ,, —Heard whistle r. rear. Blew horn to collect Scouts.

Digitized by Google

3. *How to take Cover and observe without being seen*

The taking of cover varies in its necessary methods according to the distance at which the nearest enemy may be from the starting-point of the Scout. If he is likely to be several miles away Scouts may march openly in some patrol formation along the main roads or even across country; but once it is suspected that they may be within view of hostile Scouts or patrols, cover must be taken.

At first this cover may be sought under hedgerows, in ditches, behind walls, etc., but the nearer the approach to the enemy the greater the necessity for getting into open country and approaching his position under cover of whatever advantages such country may possess, as, for example, woods and spinneys, bushes and bracken, dykes or stone walls.

To do this properly the Scout must think neither of his clothes nor his person, but be content to sacrifice both in the endeavour to attain proximity to the enemy without being seen or giving him any reason for suspecting his presence. This he may only do by crawling flat on the ground, exposing himself not at all, making no noise, and when, having ascertained the information which he has been sent out to collect, he begins to retire, he must, until he is again beyond sight of the enemy, be careful to pursue the same tactics as he followed during his advance.

Digitized by Google

As explained in Part V. (*b*), Section 7, he must be careful not to disturb or attract the attention of the various birds and beasts which might give him away to the enemy. The Scouts Officer, once he has got over the Preliminary Training of his men and begun the Advanced Training, will find his most difficult and heart-breaking task in teaching them to take cover. A watchful eye and constant practice will alone bring about improvement in this respect, coupled with the frequent repetition of the warning that when they arrive at the Front any carelessness in taking cover may cost them their lives. It may be laid down as an axiom that if a Scout will not take the trouble to conceal himself during training at home he will not do so at the Front and is consequently valueless.

Cover from observers in aeroplanes must also be taken and the Scout taught directly he hears the noise made by the engines of approaching aircraft to get out of sight, lie perfectly still and resist the temptation to look up at it during its passage, as few things are more clearly visible from above than an upturned human face.

4. *Functions of Scouts in Trench Warfare*

Although limited in their scope the functions of Scouts during the present phase of Trench Warfare

Digitized by Google

are none the less valuable and important. Over and above the duty of knowing the plan of the trenches that the unit to which the Scouts belong are to occupy, and into which they will be detailed to guide the various companies and platoons, comes the duty of acting as look-out men in the fire-trenches. Here they will have to occupy loop-holes through which they may observe the enemy's trench while the adjoining loop-holes are perhaps being used by snipers. It will be the Scout's duty to report to his neighbour when he sees a target at which he may aim, but not, of course, to do the shooting himself. The principal thing for the Scout to remember is that he must always keep the curtain of sacking with which his loop-hole is provided over the back of his neck, or he will very likely be shot in the eye through the loop-hole out of which he is observing.

It will also be his duty to go out to any observation post that may be established in advance of the fire-trenches. Here, by day he and the men with him will observe the movements of the enemy, and, in case of a threatened attack, one of them will take the warning back through the communication trench. The Scouts occupying the observation post need not, however, retire when the attack is developed, as the enemy is very likely to disregard their presence and push on to the trenches. When he is repulsed the Scouts in the observation posts can then be more effectively used in bringing a flanking fire to

Digitized by Google

bear on their discomfited opponents during their retreat.

Scouts in the Trenches will also be required to watch for the approach of gas when the wind is in a favourable direction for this enemy manœuvre. Where it is suspected that invisible gas will be used, the employment of canaries or other small cage-birds in inconspicuous cages placed just beyond the parapet has been advocated, and in some cases, I believe, adopted. The birds are said to be easily affected and to fall from their perches, in this way giving warning of the approach of the deadly gas. The Scout's duty will include the watching of these birds and spreading the alarm without delay.

5. *Field Practices and Memory Tests*

The Scouts Officer who has been careful to study the preceding Sections of this Manual, and in addition to use his own brains and initiative, will find no difficulty in devising many forms of Field-practices in which to exercise the men under his command. Wherever Scouts show themselves to be inefficient in taking cover, observing, reporting, or other of the duties of Scouts, they should be exercised over and over again until they approach perfection in these duties: it being impressed upon them that unless they take the pains to become perfect, they will run unnecessary risks after their arrival at the Front.

Digitized by Google

6. *Patrols*

In the present phase of this war there is very little scope for using Scouts as patrols working in the formation laid down in the old books on Scouting. These, it will be remembered, took the form known as "Diamond"; and it may be just as well that the Scouts Officer should become acquainted with the "Diamond" formation of a patrol, and he should take the opportunity of occasionally marching his men to and from their exercise-ground in this formation, both upon the roads and across country, by way of practice.

In the "Diamond" formation one man is pushed forward as a Point. According to the nature of the road or of the country to be traversed, and to the remoteness or proximity of the enemy, will be the distance between the point and the centre of the "Diamond," which will be occupied by a Scout-Corporal or possibly by the Scouts Officer himself. Roughly speaking, a distance of 100 to 200 yards should separate the point from the Commander of the patrol, and it will be sufficient if the flankers are extended from 25 to 50 yards to right or left and about the same distance in advance of the Commander of the patrol. From 50 to 100 yards behind will follow the rear point, which may consist of two Scouts, the duty of one of whom will be to maintain communication with the column in the rear for whom

Digitized by Google

they are acting as Scouts. Three or more patrols of varying strength, with points and flankers doubled, and working in pairs, may be employed for practice purposes; although, perhaps, with men in training in the New Armies, it will be found that they work better, and learn more quickly, if they are compelled to work independently and out of earshot of other Scouts, with whom they may be disposed to gossip, and so to neglect their duties.

(*d*) Night Work

1. *Finding the Way at Night*

The object of carrying out practices at night is to perfect the men in those branches of Scouting upon which they have been previously instructed during the day. It is not necessary to wait until towards the end of the Course, or until all the lessons previously dealt with in this Scheme of Training have been carried out, before beginning to practise the men in working at night.

It will be found that many town-bred men in the New Armies, even those of superior education, are actually terrified when posted or left alone after dark in some unfamiliar spot, even in the peaceful country-side of Britain where they have no enemy to fear. It is really extraordinary to find so many people who are, like children, "afraid of the dark."

The Scouts Officer will have to use considerable

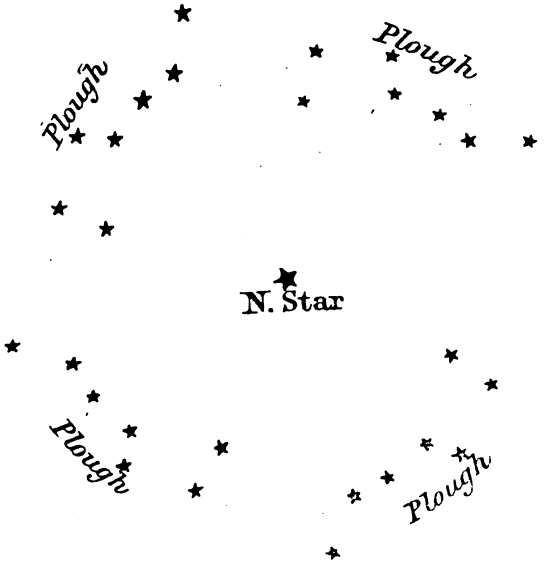
Digitized by Google

tact and judgment in dealing with men of this sort; for it is essential, whether they are to serve in the army as Scouts or not, that this fear of darkness should be expelled from their minds if they are to make any sort of soldier. In the first instance, it may be well to work Scouts or post sentries either in pairs or in close proximity to one another. This practice must not be pursued very long, or the men will never be trained to do their duty properly. I have known a man posted with a companion, and ordered to return with a report at a given hour of the night, to lose his way shortly after starting on his mission, return to his companion, and be brought into Headquarters an hour or so later in a pitiable state of nerves; yet at the end of another month's training he turned into one of the boldest of men, and became really expert at finding his way in the roughest country on the blackest of nights.

The Scouts Officer must use his judgment in dealing with individual cases of this sort, and may even take a promising man, who is simply nervous because of his unfamiliarity with night-conditions in the country, out by himself and explain to him not only how to find his way to and from various points, but also the meaning and significance of the various night sounds caused by birds and animals, by the wind, or by other natural causes. Of course, deliberate shirking, whether from laziness or otherwise, deserting their posts, or going to sleep when on duty, must be very

Digitized by Google

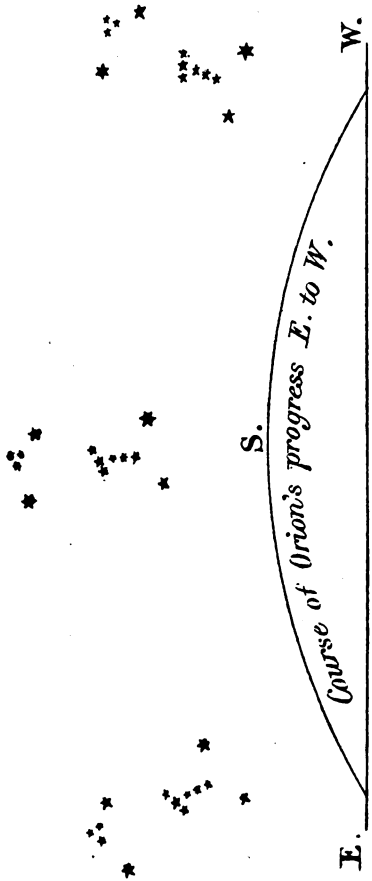
severely dealt with. The Scouts Officer will be able during training to devise various minor punishments



NORTH STAR AND PLOUGH.

that will penalise men who behave in this way; but should always explain to them that such offences, if committed at the Front, are punishable by Death.

Digitized by Google



THE SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION ORION.

In the Section on Map-reading a system of teaching the men to find the North Point in daylight by various methods has been explained. At night this system is regulated by the observation of certain stars and constellations.

The method of finding the North by the Pole Star is well known, and easily to be learned from the accompanying diagram; but it must be held in mind that the Plough or Great Bear—sometimes called Charles's Wain,

Digitized by Google

and the Waggoner—revolves round the North Star, and its appearance at different hours of the night and at different seasons of the year should be carefully explained, or the wrong star may be identified as the Pole Star, instead of that to which the "pointers" of the Plough lead the eye of the observer.

In some cases the Northern Hemisphere, in which the Plough and North Star are situated, is obscured by clouds, while the sky to the South is clear. A general knowledge of the constellations therefore is of considerable assistance in Scouting, and may be acquired from any elementary book on astronomy. It must suffice here to give a diagram of the easily identifiable constellation Orion; the most prominent one in the Southern sky, and to be seen at some time on most clear nights during the year.

When Orion is standing upright, as in the centre of the accompanying diagram, he is, roughly speaking, on the Zenith, or Due South; and the North Point is immediately opposite him. When he leans to the left or right he is rising or setting, and the South Point may be roughly judged from his position, relatively to the horizon and the Zenith. (See Diagram, p. 86.)

2. *Marching on a Bearing*

Practice in the art of finding the way across country in the dark is of the utmost importance. In the first instance, the Scout under Training should be taken to

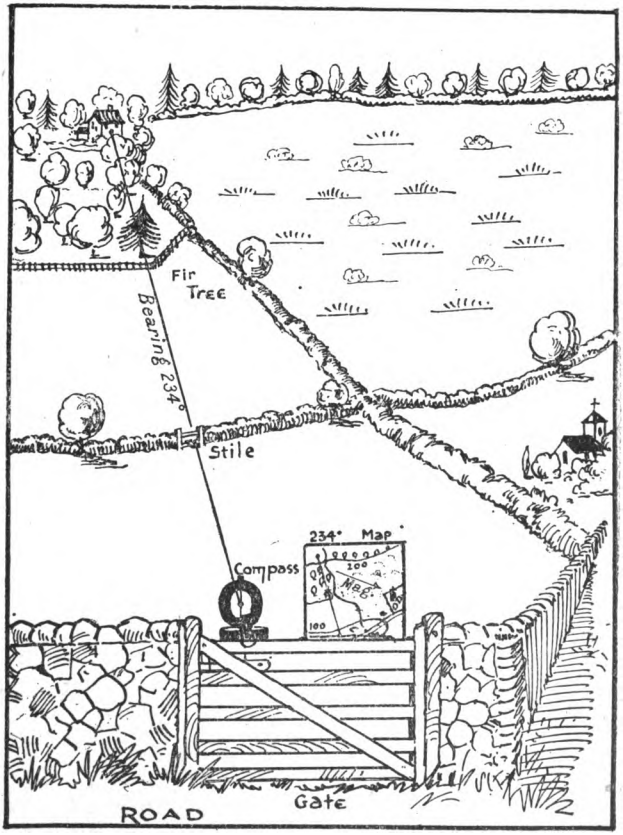
Digitized by Google

some place which he knows and despatched thence to some other place that he also knows, at a distance of a mile or more, which he has to reach by going across country.

At a more advanced stage, he may be halted at a place to which he has not before been taken, given a luminous compass and a bearing on which to march, and told to find his way to the spot represented by the bearing. The Scouts Officer will take this bearing, either with his Prismatic Compass on the spot, or else from the map by means of his Protractor on the principles laid down in the *Manual of Map-Reading and Field-Sketching*.

It must be explained to the man that he may not be able, owing to natural obstacles, such as rivers and ditches, to march upon his bearing in a straight line. Various detours may have to be made, but he must retain his sense of direction through them all, if he is eventually to arrive at the spot to which he has been despatched. In order to do this, when he has aligned his luminous compass on the correct bearing before starting, he will take some object, such as a tall tree, standing between him and the point he wishes to reach, and on arriving at this tree or other object should similarly take another object in the same line and march on that, and so on until he reaches his objective. The accompanying illustration and the instructions on page 90 sufficiently explain the use of a compass for taking and marching upon bearings.

Digitized by Google



METHOD OF MARCHING ON A BEARING.

Digitized by Google

Explanation of illustration (p. 89) showing method of marching on a compass bearing:

1. It is desired to march on a cottage shown on a map of the country as being hidden in a wood.
2. The magnetic meridian (Mag.) having been ruled on the map of the country in pencil with the aid of a parallel ruler, and the gate at the corner of the road taken as a starting point, the bearing of the cottage is ascertained by means of a protractor to be exactly 234°.
3. The prismatic compass is now used to find the direction that will be given by 234°.
4. When the card has settled. 234° seen through the prism will be found to give a line leading over the stile and directly on the fir-tree at the corner of the wood.
5. The Scout will therefore follow this line and by keeping gate, stile, and tree aligned must hit off the cottage.

3. *Finding the Way in Woods and Close Country*

In woods and close country much cut-up by narrow lanes running between high banks and hedgerows, it will be found very difficult for men unaccustomed to country-life to retain their sense of direction. Nothing but constant practice will teach them how to find their way in such a type of country. They should

Digitized by Google

be instructed in the fact that there is a natural tendency for human beings who have lost the sense of direction to wander in circles, and even in open country when the sense of direction is still retained to bear off insensibly to one flank or the other, generally, I have found, to the left. If a man is duly warned of this tendency, he will be on his guard against it, and is therefore the more likely to go straight.

In a wood of moderate extent men should be taught to find their way, first to the highest point and thence to the outskirts. This they can do by following the many tracks left in most woods by the habitual passage of human beings or animals, all of which must at some time lead towards the edge of the wood, which is usually defined by some amount of light showing between the boles of the trees. It must be left to the ingenuity of the Scouts Officer to devise various practices in which the men may engage at night in this sort of country; such as the carrying and finding of notes to be placed in the clefts of trees or fences, and so on. Work of this sort may be made very interesting to the men, and they may be rewarded in various ways for its successful performance.

4. *Listening Posts and Identification of Sounds at Night*

At the Front night-work for Scouts will take the form of reconnoitring enemy trenches, occupying Listening Posts, and thence identifying the sounds that may come from the direction of the enemy,

Digitized by Google

ascertaining their significance, and bringing back information to the officer commanding in the fire-trenches. All this work has to be done in complete silence, and, of course, without being seen. The Scout will have to crawl noiselessly, taking advantage of all accidental cover, such as long grass, crops, shell-holes and so forth; and, while making no noise himself, should always be on the alert for the slightest sound emanating from the enemy. In order to do this properly, he must divest himself of his equipment and go unarmed, except possibly with a knife, and in my opinion he should go alone.

Where two or more Scouts are engaged in reconnoitring enemy's trenches, or occupying a Listening Post, one of them is almost certain to make some sound that will give the show away, and if a machine gun be turned upon them they will very likely all be killed. The object of taking advantage of every slightest bit of cover and of never crossing any open ground if it can possibly be avoided, is that, in the event of the enemy sending up a star-shell to illuminate the ground between the trenches, the Scout shall not be seen. In the event of a star-shell being used in this way when the Scout is more or less exposed, he must lie perfectly still, with his face towards the earth, not even moving an eyebrow, and he will very likely, if these directions be followed, escape notice.

Practice in this work should be indulged in during training, where opposing trenches are available; the

Digitized by Google

men being divided into two parties acting against each other, and rockets or lights of some kind employed to represent the star-shells of actual warfare.

5. *Bivouacing and Cooking*

One of the most important, as well as one of the most enjoyable portions of the Scouts' Training, is that where, when sufficiently advanced, they are allowed to take their rations with them, and to remain out all day or over-night, or for two or three days or possibly for a week at a time. Only in this way can Scouts be taught to become independent and self-reliant, and so to be prepared for the work which they will have to do at the Front, afar from field-kitchens and canteens.

It is the Scout Sergeant's or Senior N.C.O.'s duty, on seeing the orders of the Scouts Officer for the ensuing day or days, to draw from the Quartermaster the rations to which his men are entitled for the period named. For a period of a week or more it will be found better, in order to dispense with Transport, for the Scouts Officer to draw the money in lieu of rations at the rate of 1*s.* 9*d.* per head per day, and to cater for his men in the villages scattered about the country in which he intends to carry out his scheme of Training. He will sometimes find that, in addition to providing the men with a very welcome change of diet from the ordinary camp or barrack fare, he will be able to save sufficient out of the 1*s.* 9*d.* to allow the men a packet of cigarettes and a pint of beer a day.

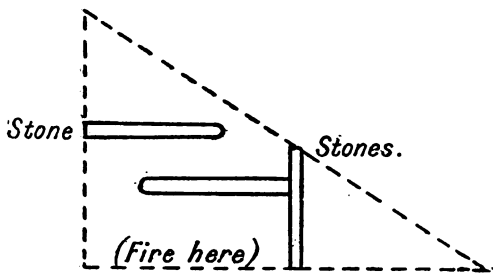
Digitized by Google

Even when not billeted it will usually be found possible at the resting-places selected for the night to borrow from the inhabitants cooking utensils sufficient for the party. Scouts should not, unless under exceptional circumstances, be put into dwelling-houses to sleep. In fine weather they should form bivouacs with their blankets and waterproof sheets, or obtain some shelter in barns and outhouses where with plenty of straw, and the blanket and waterproof sheet apiece which each man should carry, it should be possible for them to make themselves comfortable under all ordinary circumstances. Whenever they are in the proximity of straw very strict orders must be given with regard to smoking and the striking of matches, and any disobedience of these orders should be severely punished.

In order to obtain the best results the Training of Scouts should to a great extent be carried out in parts remote from the beaten tracks. There it will be found that the local residents (even now that Great Britain has been transformed into one huge camp, and that the khaki-clad warrior is almost as common an object of the countryside as he is of the streets of big cities) will often extend a very hearty welcome to a small party of from sixteen to thirty-two Scouts under their officers; and will take great interest in their work and be glad to see that they are made comfortable and, indeed, enjoy some small luxuries during their brief stay in the district.

Digitized by Google

Nevertheless, it should not be forgotten that the object of taking Scouts away from camp or barracks is to train them in their duties, and not to provide them with a pleasant sort of picnic. Therefore, they must be compelled to make their own fires, prepare and cook their own meals, and clean up everything afterwards, so as to leave no sign of their occupation of that particular place.

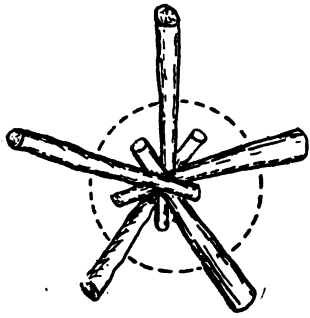


OVEN EXCAVATED IN SLOPING BANK.

All fires should be made out-of-doors by the Scouts themselves, and this may be done even during the wettest weather, provided the fire be started with some material that is absolutely dry. Wood for out-of-door fires can be obtained almost anywhere. Farmers and cottagers are usually willing to provide gratis the small quantities necessary to cook the meals of limited bodies of men. But apart from this,

Digitized by Google

wood for fuel may be collected from most hedgerows without doing any damage; provided only dead-wood—which is better out of the hedge—be taken. Dead-wood in a hedgerow is that which may readily be snapped by a smart tug; and the best woods for open-air fires are whitethorn, ash, hazel and holly,



ARRANGEMENT OF LOGS FOR OUTDOOR FIRE.

in this order. Beech, elm, and oak, when the bark is stripped from them, make good fires without smoke; but birch, poplar, and pine are not to be recommended if anything else can be procured. A due proportion of 3" logs should be used in conjunction with the smaller stuff, if it be intended to keep the fire going for any length of time. For merely boiling

Digitized by Google

water in a canteen a quick hot blaze, such as may be made with dried whin-bushes, will, of course, suffice.

The men should be encouraged to cook each his own food in his own canteen, and if the Scouts Officer is one of those intelligent persons who wisely takes an interest in the cooking and preparation of his own food and that of the men under his command, he should be able to introduce various improvements and small additions to the ordinary ration food, which will render it more appetising, palatable, and nutritious. For instance, for a few pence eggs may often be procured at farmhouses to be added to the morning ration of bacon: some fresh vegetables may be obtained from a cottage garden, which will vastly improve the ordinary stew; and the cheese served out may be formed by the addition of fresh milk, bread-crumbs, mustard, pepper and salt, into an excellent Welsh Rarebit, made in the cover of the canteen. It is impossible here to provide a list of menus suitable for introduction by the Scouts Officer to the notice of his men; but if he be interested in this important branch of his work, a penny cookery book will afford him plenty of hints on improving their diet at very little or, perhaps, no expense.

By means of one of the handy aluminium canteens before mentioned, which can be carried in a haversack or strapped to the Sam Browne or webbing belt behind, the Scouts Officer should be able to cook his own meals and "do" himself sufficiently well.

Digitized by Google

CHAPTER VII

EXAMINATION FOR PROFICIENCY BADGES

At the end of the Course of Training, designed to last six weeks—in less time than which it is impossible to instruct a Scout in the duties pertaining to his branch of military work—it will be well to set the class an examination paper, consisting of a dozen or twenty questions: the success or failure in correctly answering which shall gain or lose him the right to wear the Scouts Badge, and possibly also to the extra pay in units where this is granted for proficiency in Scouting.

These questions should cover every branch of Scouting in which the N.C.O. or man has been instructed, and if answered to the satisfaction of the Scouts Officer, should be submitted to the Commanding Officer through the Adjutant in the usual way, with the recommendations of the Officer who has been responsible for the Course of Training.

With the sanction of the Commanding Officer those men who have passed the Proficiency Test contained in the examination paper, in oral as well as written questions and in practical work in the field, should be at once awarded their distinctive Badges.

Digitized by Google

SUGGESTED EXAMINATION TESTS

Maximum Marks

Q. 1. Draw and Identify the following twelve Conventional Signs commonly used in Maps and Military Sketches 10

Church with spire	Railway (double)
Windmill	Embankment
Mixed Wood (close)	Bridge over River
1st-Class Metalled Road (unfenced)	Well
	Footpath
Marsh	Obstacles
Quarry	

Q. 2. Describe the Flags and Lamps used to distinguish—

General Headquarters	Army Post Office
Hdqrs. of a Division	Supply Stores
Hdqrs. of a Brigade	Army Pay Office . 10

Q. 3. Construct a Scale of Yards on the scale of 4 inches to 1 mile to show Hundreds of Yards 10

Q. 4. Enlarge a square inch of Map (scale 1″ = 1 m.) to the scale of 4″ = 1 m. by the square system 10

Q. 5. Describe the method of finding True North without a Compass (*a*) by Day, (*b*) by Night 10

Q. 6. Write a Report of 3 miles of Road from examination of a selected tract of road on the 1″ Ordnance Map, or from actual reconnaissance 10

Digitized by Google

	Maximum Marks
Q. 7. Lay off and estimate the distances of six prominent objects on a 1″ Ordnance Map, taken from the supposed position of the observer by means of a scale of yards or protractor . .	10
Q. 8. Semaphore with the hands from a position under cover the following message: "Enemy scouts occupy the outskirts of the pine-wood 400 yds. to our left front" .	10
Q. 9. Describe the normal formation of a patrol in open country where the presence of an enemy is not suspected	10
Q. 10. A letter having been previously concealed in a tree in a wood, the Scout under examination for proficiency should be sent by night to find it; marks being awarded or withheld according to the time taken	10
Q. 11. Selected Scouts having been despatched in advance along a specified route, candidates for Proficiency Badges should be required to track them by means of the foot-prints, paterans, and signs left by them	10
Q. 12. Rations for three men being handed to the candidate, he should be required to make a fire and cook an appetising meal within, say, 1 hour	10
Total of Possible Marks	120

N.B.—These Questions and Tests may be varied according to the judgment of the examining officer.

Digitized by Google

INDEX

Actions of birds and beasts, 61, 66, 67, 68
Adjutant, 19, 22, 28, 98
Advanced training, 20, 24, 74
Aeroplanes, 60, 79
Age, best for scouts, 12
Alphabet, semaphore, 56
Aluminium canteens, officers', 15, 97
Armies, new, 9, 26, 83
Army Book 153, 12, 13, 47, 73
— flags and lamps, 57 (and plate facing p. 56)
Artillery observation officers, 60
— observing for, 60

Badges, 5, 7, 98
Barking of dogs, 32, 68
Barmstrode range-finder, 72
Battalion scouts, 3, 6, 8, 9
Bear, the Great, 85, 86
Bearing, marching on a, 87, 88, 89, 90
Beasts and birds, actions of, 61, 66, 67, 68
Best age for Scouts, 12
Billets, 2
— rest, 19
Birds and beasts, actions of, 61, 66, 67, 68
Bivouacing, 93, 94
Bivouacs, 94
Blackbirds, 67
Blackboard, 22, 37
Block capitals, 42, 46
"Boy Scouts," 9

Canaries, 81
Canteens, 15, 28, 96, 97
— aluminium, officers', 15, 97
Capitals, block, 42, 46
Carbon sheets, 47
Cattle, 31, 32, 33, 67
Cigarettes, 29, 93
Circles, wandering in, 91
Colours, use of, 37, 42, 72
Command, Higher, 1, 31
Commanding officer, 4, 5, 7, 8, 19, 22, 98
Company commander, 8, 9, 28, 29
Compass, magnetic, 13
— points of the, 36
— prismatic, 13, 14, 58, 90
— variation, 35, 36
Compass-bearing, marching on, 87, 88, 89, 90
Competitions, 21, 58
Conducting, 2
Constellation of Orion, 86, 87
Constellations and stars, 86
Conventional signs, 22, 37, 70
Cooking, 93, 97
— utensils, 94

Digitized by Google

Copying and enlarging maps, 21, 38
"Corbet" hunting-knife, 13
Country, close (finding the way in), 90
— identifying a, 57
Cover, 60, 76, 78, 79, 92
— observing and reporting from, 76
Cows, 32
Cross-country work, 74

Dark, fear of the, 83
Day-work, 20, 24
Diamond formation of patrols, 82
Discipline, 28
— march, 29
Distance, judging, 53, 55, 58
Dividers, 55
Dogs, barking of, 32, 68
Dress and equipment for scouts, 13

Eggs, 97
Electric torch, 15
Enlarging maps, 38, 41
Equipment, dress and, 13
— skeleton, 18
Examination papers, short, 21
— test for proficiency, 99, 100

Face, the human (visibility), 60, 79
Farms, reconnaissance of, 59, 60
Fear of the dark, 83
Field Book, 58, 71
— glasses, 13
— oven, 95
— practices, 81
Field Service Pocket-Book, 37
"Field Sketching Companion," 13
Field sketching, simple, 69
Finding the way at night, 83
— — — in woods and close country, 90
Fires, outdoor, 95
— — best woods for, 95, 96
Flags and lamps, Army, 57, (and plate facing p. 56)
— signalling, 17, 54, 55
Formation of patrols, 82
Foxes, 67

Gas, 81
— invisible, 81
General Officer Commanding, 43, 51
Gloves, Scouts', 17
Great Bear, the, 85, 86
Guides, Scouts as, 2, 44
Gulls, 31
Gypsies, 64, 65

Hands, use of, in semaphore signalling, 55
Higher command, 1, 31
Horizontal line, 71, 72
Horn, banded, 15
— reed, 15
Horses, 62
Hostile scouts, 33, 65, 66, 67, 74
How to take cover, 78
Hunting-horn, 15, 57, 77
Hunting-horn, the, How to Blow, 15
Hunting-knife, the "Corbet," 13

Identification of sounds at night, 91

Digitized by Google

Identifying a country, 57
Indelible pencils, 47
Individual initiative, 22
Indoor work, 20, 23, 25
Infantry Training Manual, 57
Initiative, individual, 22
Insulated wire-nippers, 15
Introduction, 1
Invisible gas, 81
Italics, use of, 42

Jays, 67
Judging distance, 53, 55, 58

Kilt, 18
Knife, active service, 13, 92
— "Corbet" hunting-, the, 13
— (*sgian dubh*), 13
— trench, 19, 92

Listening posts, 91, 92
Look-out men, 2
Loop-holes, 2, 80

Magnetic north, 36, 43
— variation, 35, 37
Manual, Infantry Training, 57
Manual of Map-Reading and Field Sketching, 70, 88
Map-making, 69
Map-reading, 34
Map-Reading, Official Manual of, 35
Map-Reading, Notes on, 35
Maps, 17, 38, 41, 43
— copying and enlarging, 38
— French, 34, 35
— Ordnance, 17, 34 38
March discipline, 29
Marching on a compass-bearing, 87, 88, 89, 90
Mask and gloves, Scouts', 17
Mekometer, 72
Memory tests, 81
Method of finding north and south, 37, 38
Military Sketching Made Easy and Military Maps Explained, 35, 70
Missel-thrushes, 67

New Armies, 9, 26, 83
Night, finding the way at, 83
— identification of sounds at, 91
Night-work, 20, 21, 24, 83, 91
North, magnetic, 36
— point, 35, 36, 37, 43, 70, 86
— star, 85
— true, 36
Notes on Map-Reading for Use in Army Schools, 35

Observation of birds and beasts, 66
— posts, 80
Observing and reporting from cover, 76
— officer for artillery, 60
— officer's notes, 77
Officers, artillery, 2
— company, 8
— commanding, 4, 5, 7, 19, 22, 98
— observing, 2
— Scouts, 6, 8, 10, 21, 22, 27, 33, 44, 59, 65, 74, 84
Orderly-room, Scouts Officer's, 8
Orders, specimen, 50
— written, 46, 49
Organisation of battalion scouts, 6
Orion, constellation of, 86, 87

Digitized by Google

Otters, 65
Outdoor fire, arrangement of, 96
— work, 20, 23, 53
Oven, field, 95
Owls, 25

Panorama-sketches, 70, 73
Papers, examination, 99
— test, 99
Parades, scouts', 28
Parallel ruler, 90
Partridges, 25, 67
Paterans, 65
Patrols, 82
— diamond formation of, 82
Pay, proficiency, 5
Pencils, coloured, 42
— indelible, 47
Pheasants, 67
Pigeons, 32, 34, 68
Plans, 70
Plough, the, 85, 86, 87
Pole-star, 85, 86
Posts, listening, 91
— observation, 80
Practices, field, 81
Preliminary training, 20, 21, 23, 25
Prismatic compass, 13, 14, 58, 90
Proficiency pay, 5, 7
— tests, 98
Protractor, 13, 15, 16
Puttees, 18

Qualifications of a scout, 25
Quarter-master, 93

Rabbits, 66, 67
Railway reports, 48
Range-finder, the Barmstrode, 72
Ranges, 72
Rapid training, scheme of, 20
Rations, 93
Rats, 69
Reconnaissance, river, 58
— road, 58
— of villages, farms, woods, etc., 59, 60
Report, form of Air-raid, 53
— canal, 58
— essential features of a, 46
— of O.C. scouts, 51
— river, 48
— road, 47, 49, 50
— scouts officer's, 22
— supplementary to map (Frontispiece), 52
Reports, verbal, 44
— writing, 44, 47, 49, 58
— written, 44, 49
Rest-billets, 19
River reconnaissance, 58
Road reconnaissance, 58
— report, simple, 50
Robins, 69
Rockets, 92, 93
Roe-deer, 68
Roll-book, Scouts officer's, 10, 11
— specimen page of, 11
Rooks, 31, 66, 68
Ruler, parallel, 90

Scouts, hostile, 33, 65, 66, 67, 74
— Officer, 6, 8, 10, 21, 22, 27, 33, 44, 59, 65, 74, 84
— roll-book, 10, 11
Scheme of rapid training, 20
Selection of Scouts, 6
Semaphore alphabet, 56

Digitized by Google

Semaphore signalling, flag, 55, 56
— — hand, 55
Sergeant, permanent Scout, 6, 44
Sergeant-major, 9, 25
Sgian dubh, 13, 18
Sheep, 31, 68
Sheet, waterproof, 18
Signalling, semaphore, 55, 56
Signals, whistle, 57
Skeleton equipment, 18
Sketching, simple field, 69
Smoking, 29, 94
Snipers, 2
Sounds at night, identification of, 91
Starlings, 69
Stars and constellations, 86
Star-shells, 92, 93
Swaine & Adeney, 15
Syllabus, 20, 23

Telegraphic facilities, 48
Telephone, 60
Telephonic communication, 48
Tests, memory, 81
— proficiency, 98, 99, 100
Torch, electric, 15
Townsmen, 9, 10, 25, 61
Tracking, 61
Training, a scheme of rapid, 20
— advanced, 20, 24
— preliminary, 20, 23, 25
Trenches, 2, 44, 79–81
— communicating, 44, 80
— fire, 44, 80
Trenches, plans of, 22, 45
Trench knife, 19, 92
— warfare, scouts in, 79
True north, 36

Utensils, cooking, 94

Variation, magnetic, 35
Vegetables, fresh, 97
Verbal reports, 44
Villages, reconnaissance of, 59

Wandering in circles, 91
Watch, 13, 36
Waterproof sheets, 18
Weasels, 66
What to observe, 29
Whistles, 13, 15
Whistle signals, 57
Wire-nippers, insulated, 15
Wood, best for outdoor fires, 96
Woods and close country, finding the way in, 90, 91
— reconnaissance of, 60
— reconnoitring, 60
— reporting on, 48
Work, day, 74
— indoor, 24
— night, 83
— outdoor, 53
Writing reports, 44, 49, 58
Written orders, 46, 49
— reports, 44

Zenith, 87

Digitized by Google

PRINTED BY
HAZELL, WATSON AND VINEY, LD.,
LONDON AND AYLESBURY,
ENGLAND.

Digitized by Google

CHARING CROSS

Turkish Baths

NEVILL'S

Northumberland Avenue

PRONOUNCED TO BE THE FINEST IN EUROPE

Are the last word in Comfort and Luxury

Cure
Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica,
Colds, Strains, Stiffness,
Etc.

THEY MAKE AND KEEP YOU FIT

. . And at . .

LONDON BRIDGE, BROAD STREET, CITY,
EDGWARE ROAD, Etc., Etc.

For Advertisement Space in these Handbooks application should be made to Clement Rossells & Co., 8, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

Digitized by Google

32101 067287506

The Ideal Shaving Soap for Soldiers

Soothing and Antiseptic

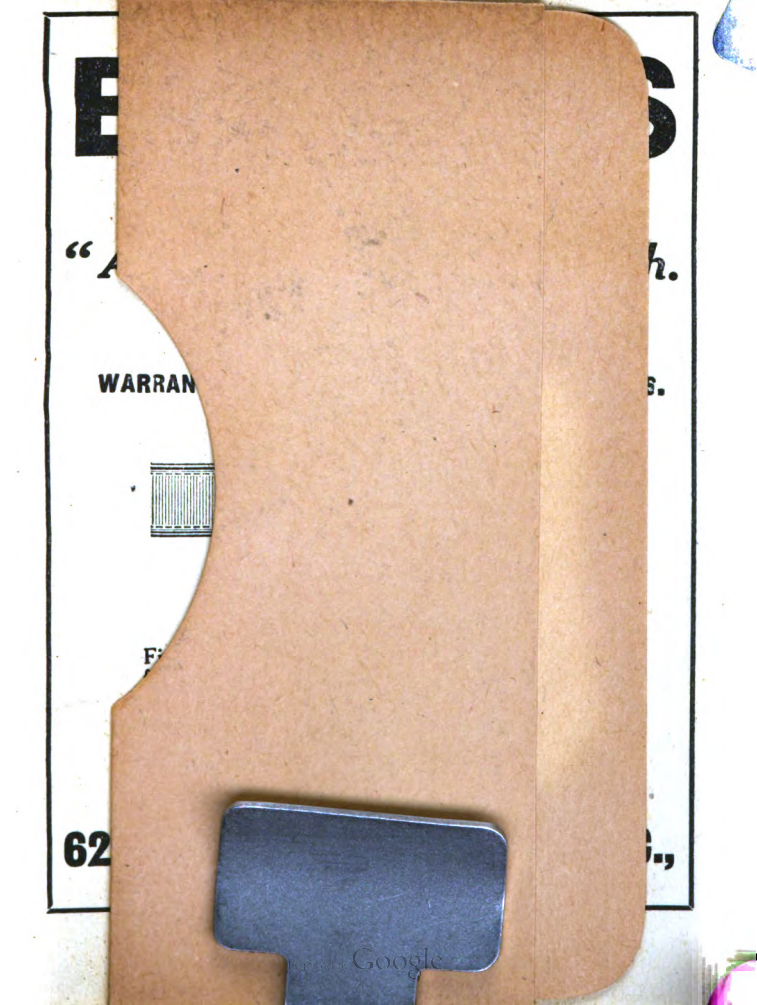
WRIGHT'S
COAL TAR
SHAVING SOAP

has all the hygienic properties of Wright's Coal Tar Soap, as well as the same clean wholesome smell. Gives a persistent creamy but not slimy lather and protects the skin from every form of "rash."

Stick or Tablet, 9d. In Powder Form, Tins, 1/-

WRIGHT, LAYMAN & UMNEY, LTD., SOUTHWARK, LONDON, S.E.

Digitized by Google


WARRAN
Google